

42 CELLAR DOORS

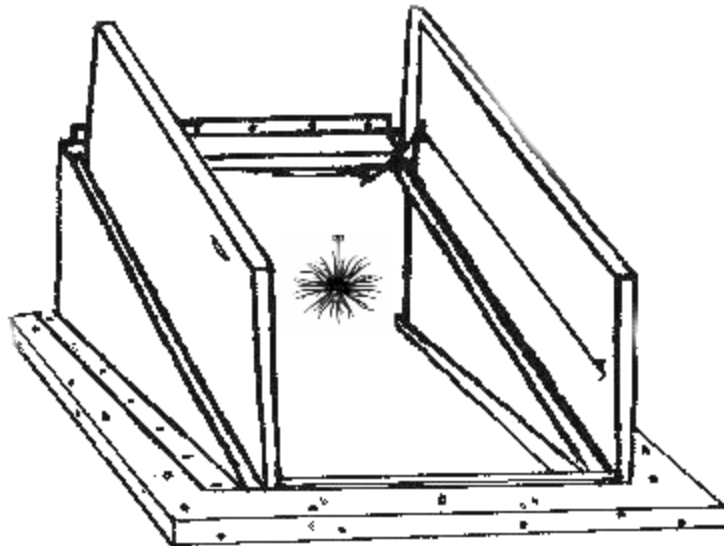
The Search for the Answer to
the Question Everyone Asks



BY DR. JAY WINTER

4 2 . -:[] Cellar Doors []:-

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{o}pened by: -[Dr. Jay Winter]-

- ._- :: [a search for the answer : :-

((: to the question everyone asks . ..

..-] the doors have been opened [[>

_*the celebration of intellectual...

...madness begins::now come. >>



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_ .. - : [**Dedication**] : : - -

- to those: once love,
lost, found in ashes
by the smell of bones;
in the valleys where
the whirlwind stirs all
faded *colors* of memory.

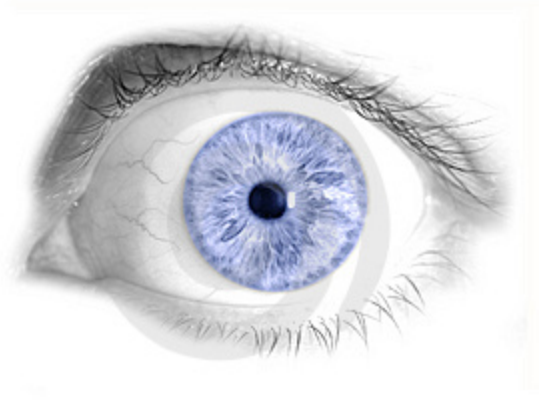
dancing, dead, reprieves:
the mentors, that found
the gift, sharing it freely
releasing the pains that
truth brings, dwelling
in the suspense of
not knowing.

to those: runners of histories,
weavers of reality, keepers
of the flame, haters of lies,
become rs of honesty, upright
and Godly people who tell
the truth.

this book is for *you*.

_ . - : [] Authors Note {} : : - -

This is not a fiction novel, nor is it a disillusioned interpretation of a conspiracy theory. Rather, this is an honest collection of natural facts and personal observations concerning mankind's ongoing, wide held attempt to (yet again) develop a purposeless system of mass society suicide (harsh but humanistic isn't it?).



The purpose of the science dealt within these pages is for the benefit of one realizing that the existence of God is unavoidable and indeed, ever so real. True, unbiased studies in any one of these fields: Astrology, Biology, Ecology, Geology, Climatology, Botany, History, Language, Mathematics, Physics, Paleontology or the like will reveal the previous sentence as a simple priori. However, this book is not about convincing it's reader into such a conclusion. The information alone suggests the existence of God but there is a huge problem with this statement due to the fact that so many have established "theories" and the dreaded word, "religions" on the subject and in this covering up the true identity of God. Thus the theology in several of the doors. Not only does this book provide every basic "belief" one

could hold true but within these doors are the only options we as humans have the opportunity to believe in. Did you catch that? The only things we can choose to believe are in these doors. Unless of course, we make our own religions.

The latter doors in the cellar will prove to be scientific in nearly all respects. However, they are not covered fully in the way that one would expect. No, this book will not read like the "American Scientific." In these doors you will find much ease in interpretation and gentle examples of many of the toughest scientific laws. In the course of writing these doors I asked myself "Why write in a language only a scientist would understand?" Ultimately the writing style changed, because after all only 37 percent of Americans are actually interested in science. My intent is to provide documentation for creation science that is easy to read and comprehend, while omitting much of the technical jargon that only a specialist would appreciate. For those who desire additional information by professionals in the creation science community, a number of outstanding organizations may be contacted (see list in Door 41).

As to all religions: every last one has been represented in the fullness of the system of belief (adherence) held therein to the accordance of the particular sect of practice. I always follow a five-source rule, meaning that if one of the five sources disagree with the matter in question (primary or secondary) - five more sources are gathered and then the conclusion is made, and so on into all the pages literature has to offer. Only consorting with the reliable, honest, and reputable authors and historians while leaving the conspiratorial lunatics of fiction on the shelves where they belong and always will; have been my guidelines for the cellar doors (a more thorough explanation for source interpretation can be found in door 41).

For this reason it is obvious why such an extensive listing of sources would be required to satisfy the seemingly endless fields of interest this book deals with. When the question of "How much research did you do?" is asked, my answer will always be (when certain) "Just enough."

This book was not easy to write; nor will it be easy to read. Some doors you may not read past the first few pages before you decide that it is too outrageous to continue. Much of this will seem surreal, but it is and will always be reality. Nevertheless, as difficult learning many of these great imperical truths that the earth, organisms, fractals and science have been for me I hope the difficulty will escape you just as it eventually did for me. Bringing you into the realm of truth; where not believing what can't be disproven, is foolishness and of course knowing the difference between "religious information interpretation" and the like otherwise known as "dogmatic hindrance." What may seem most difficult to comprehend is the Cryptozoology or the Secret to the Air. Yet these topics discussed contain immutable evidences that no other conclusion can explain except the examination held inside those doors. Once again, if curiosity catches you and further investigations of denial possess you - sources are available, please see door 41 if you feel disbelief take hold.

Tragedy, like all things has a beginning - within these doors, the tragedy will come over you as you begin to slowly realize (just as I did) that in those public classrooms we were fed lies. Those who hungered for steak and hot wings were instead tainted by scraps from three week old meals dripping with filthy sugar coated mold. Withholding valuable information from the portion of the public that is engaged in learning is a skill that governments have very well attained to. Not to mention their incredible ability to "suppress" real teaching. And with that being said, this book is a journey

into the mysterious subjects that the governments the world over did not want to teach you, me, and everyone else. Every teacher knows that "incorrect" lessons delivered powerfully and very impressionable upon the student: are in the future of that student's learning process very difficult to correct. Often the correction of a "lie" taught as "truth" are literally all on the shoulders of the student alone. Being that the outcome of the student is in terms of exactly "what they want" rather than "what is really factual." Teaching mainly follows this course throughout the learning curve. Some simply believe what they have been taught because they know nothing else.

While endeavoring to understand, you will certainly laugh, and willfully curse what you see. Over-all and most definitely in the end accept it as the test of truth always prevails. Don't take my words for this being so. Instead test them under empowered scrutiny and with severe criticism; please read this book and every other source of information in this way.

On matters of secret societies, their history, and philosophy - the same effect is in play: history doesn't change, and can be found self-evident when one goes looking. A wide array of secret society information related to Freemasonry has been directly cited from their own handbooks and ritual manuals as well as personal experiences. Basically, you're not meant to know about the material in this book - unless of course, you are a Freemason. So, if you know a Freemason, Knight of the Templar, or Illuminist don't give them this information. After reading through the Exploding door, you will be able to "mess with" anyone you see in the future wearing a Masonic Ring - which can be very entertaining. Knowledge is power.

During the course of writing these pages too often would someone ask "What is your book about?" Out of all the

questions that would come with ease to an author to explain the answer to this question should by far be the easiest. The question, by a long shot, cannot be explained in a paragraph, summary, poem or movie. Simply too many components and discussions must be contemplated - there is too much information! It's a rule of the pen that once utilized all diligence maintains dire observance. However, everyone likes an answer to a question even sometimes if it isn't even remotely true, but that's just human nature isn't it? Laying the question to rest: this book makes the heavy and nearly unbearable load of theology comfortably intriguing and astonishingly understandable with 99.5 percent of the theological spice omitted for your reading pleasure. Anyone who has read a book on any religion (theological system) can tell you actually finding a "belief" or a "point of faith" is a task many unwittingly fail while getting lost in the madness of attempting.

If theology remains absurd to you, then consider the doors dealing with science, math and history, try *The Secret to the Air* perhaps. Still as absurd as theology may seem to some, that "status-quo" of society - it has always remained the driving force behind society and bridged the horrific utterance of total anarchy throughout the ages. Meaning, even those who claim to be "non-religious" can simply be classified as a religious sect by the nature of definitions. Frankly, everyone is religious whether they know it or not. Not so? Read doors 5-10. The definitions will get you just as they get everyone who comes into contact with them.

Apparently not many seekers will wade through hundreds of pages of heavy religious matters requiring sustained concentration. Such books remind too many persons of the secular classics they were forced to read while they were in school and they turn away from them with a feeling of discouragement. This is not one of those books.

For that reason an effort such as this may be not without some beneficial effect. Since this book is neither esoteric nor technical, and since it is written in the language of clarity with no pretension to elegant literary style, perhaps some persons may be drawn to read it. While I believe that nothing will be found here contrary to sound theology, I yet write not for professional theologians but for plain persons whose hearts stir them up to seek after the answer It-self.

Lastly, don't be surprised if you find yourself asking "Who taught this writer how to put together a paragraph?" Dumb question... the public school system committed this crime. Most English teachers will not be able to read this book without screaming, cutting one or more of their appendages off, or possibly even hemorrhaging to death due to an increasing agitation from the mis usage of "structured" words. The intentional destruction of the English language is inherent. Transitive verbs, reciprocal pronouns, inflection, subordinating conjunctions and predicate adjectives will be found within these doors to be misrepresented in every way conceivable. English teachers often "worship" words and their structure: this is foolishness (and possibly a religion in itself). It is not the matter of "how it is said," but rather: "what is said."

It is my hope that this small book my contribute somewhat to the promotion of personal heart religion among us; and should a few persons by reading it be encouraged to begin the practice of reverent meditation on the being of God, that will more than repay the labor required to produce it.

With that in mind..

-.._ Happy Page Conquering_..-

_.. -:: [}> Truth Therom:

All *truth* passes through three stages:

First, it is ridiculed;

Second, it is violently rejected; and

Third, it is accepted as self-evident.

Arthur Schopenhauer, (1788-1860)
Professor of Philosophy
University of Berlin, Germany

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Please read this book with the scientific method in mind and in action. Yes, even the religions can be scientifically tested in terms of logical elimination. There is no reason to be frightened by any of these topics. However there is, only if the reader is afraid of finding flaws in various belief systems. Especially their own.

Does this defy the sensibility of wisdom? Certainly, Wisdom tells us that if we do not understand something, we should consider it. Wisdom through consideration tells us to learn of what we do not understand while through this the end thereof is explaining the previously unknown. This dear reader is precisely why you are reading, because you – like me want knowledge. May your curiosity never be tamed.

(Further directions for reading this book and how it was produced, interpreted, and established into explanations can be found in Door 41)

_.. -::[[> Door One <[[::- -

))Unquenchable Thirst((

There is something that happens to :every: human being while still considering that every human being is unique, all; nevertheless still face this. Not a single man, woman or child has the choice to be excluded from this dilemma. Although some who make up the special few who can exclude the world at will, fail to maintain this outlook without faltering, therefore experiencing it indefinitely. Humans are born into an unavoidable problem. No matter what is done by the individual, or what they may say, there is no way to escape: as sure as the sun shines upon the earth this problem for mankind is unchangeable. It's as if you had just put two blue socks in the dryer and after the cycle completed, the door opened to reveal only one blue sock remaining. You have no control. There is no control over the problem that we all face, it just happens - a built in sensation felt by every culture inhabiting the globe. When you wake up, it's there. Driving down the street to work, its presence is ever so lingering. The long penetrating stares seep through the eyes of those who look in the mirror trying to solve it's mystery only to discover that the answer is not within themselves, but rather not only in one place, but in all places. Is it a feeling? A state of mind, paycheck, or a hamster? No, the mastery of the problem takes some a lifetime to solve while others who earnestly hunger for the solution: find it.

Not to say that others who, so lost in a world thought to be their very own private domain could find the solution in

another way is in effect saying that there are multiple answers in which are all right but yet not the same. If the white house is white, then how can someone say it is red and be right? So, if two answers to one question do exist then one answer must then be considered wrong because facts don't change, so then it wasn't an answer at all, it was just considered or believed to be a true answer but was just: a lie. The focus of this structure of society centers around the mantra of the "mob," knowing nothing else it simply believes what its told - never questioning. Instead following the lines already established by others. Waiting, to, die... Those who fall prey to this state of mind bide their time making merriment by pursuing temporary happiness, becoming lost at sea without a compass and no stars to guide them home to a place they never really knew existed, but managed from time to time; seeking it's location with perpetual failure looming over them - as if finding the answer had become unthinkable. Problematic thinking reveals a lack of thinking. Some say that the mark of intelligence is when one can hold two contradictory ideas in the same thought without betraying one for the other. While some dabble with unfocused pursuits, others establish a way. On the other hand, others more inclined for the journey prepare their vessels, utilizing the many skills of survival and archetype of logical thinking diffusing the mindlessness lurking in the sea, making ready the sails in an unchanging course to find the home where they know they belong. No matter what way one sails, it's all roundabout for the very same problem.

To drive it away,
to subdue it,
to find the cure:
one must seek *answers*.

Psychology tells us that it's mere "human nature" and is utterly pointless to fight against, unless we for some strange reason rapidly change into dolphins and don't have to acknowledge the problem or just pretend that it doesn't exist and isn't really real. Science explains, without using a "theory" that the answers are waiting for those eager to understand. Math simply says, "Yes!" Fractal Geometry calls for a design and demands an artist's hand. Hydrology proclaims a mystery to discover the origin of the earth, while geology tells us that instantly: the earth was made. Plato gently taught those who would listen to discern what seems impossible from what appears to be more likely. What seems more logical, nothing plus nothing equals everything or intelligent designer plus planning equals everything? When the very oxygen your breathing holds a key to unlocking the problem you've been facing ever since you found out that death rapidly approaches from the dark corners of your imagination; coming soon to a tombstone planted six feet above you. While your body investigates the possibility of solidifying and becoming a fossil, why not solve the problem before you cant?

For those lucky enough to be able to say that they have never been confronted by the problem: the world calls these people Liars, in all simplicity. As mentioned before, it's not inescapable and the possibility of changing into a dolphin within the next two minutes is the speed of light to the sixteen hundred thousandth power to one against. Even if one could leave this planet and live elsewhere the problem would still persist irregardless of the individuals distortion of the relative importance brought by the problem: it always comes back to the top side of the thought process all in due time throughout the life-cycle of human beings. The only problem that truly exists in life: is the question. : : ? : : (that governs the lives of everyone)

The answer to this question determines how one will treat another.

Psychologically tested, philosophically approved.

It subjectively affects the activities that one may or may not participate in.

Psychologically tested, philosophically approved.

Ultimately, determining one's destination in the end of their physical life.

Philosophically tested, psychologically approved.

It's a commonly well-known fact that what one takes in, one puts out, or "You are what you eat." It's also said, that in life "You can eat anything," we consume everything whether its non-digestible (ideas) or not. The consumption of materials (think about it) can be found in every individuals inventory (media, music, ideas, art, books, etc.).

So how can eating bad philosophy affect the outcome of ones life? Well, it depends on the philosophy and how it's applied to the person's life. For instance, for the sake of a universal example: when Friedrich Nietzsche published his "race theory" which proposes that one race is superior to others, his philosophy changed the life of Adolf Hitler and the world forever. This is to say, that a philosophy does not have the power to affect someone, in this case is utterly a mindless conclusion: just a fallacy.

Had mister Hitler ate maybe more Plato, Confucius, or C.S. Lewis for breakfast, he just might have thought that people were all equal and that no one had to die, at least not by his hands. All right, so you might think all philosophy is equal irregardless of disposition... It's impossible, they are all-different in some ways while in agreement on various topics but nevertheless, at the same time contradicting one another. Weigh it out for yourself: philosophy of hate vs. philosophy of equality - :Which is suitable for society?:

Philosophy breaks down into nearly every method we consume information, actually it can be seen everyday one goes to the supermarket or has an interaction with another. How one interacts with another is based on their religion, look how it breaks down. Since any specific system (ethical conduct dictated by beliefs) of living is considered to be religion then everyone that claims not to be religious, then by definition, is (they're believing in nothing, is their religion). Believing is simply what one finds to be true and real, having confidence in a statement or promise. A person interprets facts and evidence based on his philosophy of life, and a person's philosophy of life is based on his morality. Morality is determined by one's disposition of heart. One's disposition of heart is determined by one's desire to serve God or self. If a person's morality - his beliefs as to what is right or wrong - is determined by his own personal likes and dislikes, then the philosophy of life he chooses will support such a morality. The morality one has, determines how they will treat others: ultimately affecting everyone that person comes in contact with. How your next-door neighbor treats you is based ultimately on: their religion.

Now to lay the question to a temporary rest; it is beneficial to know that these pages are about my search through all the worlds religions, science, philosophy, history, geology, math, and cryptozoology to find the answer to the question that once burned my insides like a bucket of acid and nerves knocked over inside me! This bucket, I think was instantaneously brought into existence in my life after the death of a dear friend, Charlie Riffen Mayberry III. Months after his passing I began searching, because I had to know what life was all about and where Charlie had really went. I knew that he was a Christian, he had once told me when talking about life that: "One day Jerrod, you'll climb a mountain. Not literally, but you will. And at the top you will find all those who believe in the name of the Son of God,

Jesus Christ waiting to receive you." I kept thinking, was he right? Then to suit my deterrence of this overwhelming statement, I, just like many others discarded it for the time being: becoming entertained so as I might forget this looming problem.

Well, there are so many of these Christians and the message of the Bible is so simple: It's composed of two parts, the Old and the New Testament. The ground of the former is the Law, which shows our wrong doings (sin) and contains justice. The ground of the other is Christ, who pardoning sin gave us Grace. The sum of the law is the ten Commands, more largely dilated in the Law, given to the prophets by God's inspiration. But because no man was able to keep the Law, nor any parts thereof, it pleased God of his infinite wisdom and goodness, to manifest his only Son in our nature, for satisfaction of his justice in his suffering for us: that since we could not be saved by doing, we might (at least) be saved by believing.

Well, its simple enough compared to other things. It's just how God redeems mankind, basically. Knowing this information already, before Charlie had explained to me why the God of the Bible is in fact the only God that is real and not just imagined. Because I had been raised in Church and still didn't believe. Evolution had utterly destroyed me, turning me into the animal that Darwin had said I was. In his comparison of humans, he holds earthworms to be our great great grandfathers which isn't such a bad idea if you can't think for yourself. I couldn't believe that Charlie was gone. Where did my friend go? I can see his body, but that isn't him! When you're with a good friend, you don't see them for what they are, "another human" but for who they are, a spirit, a soul, constantly reviving you when your down. Beginning to feel a little lost, confused, and trying to make sense of it all and the question that Charlie brought to my

life: What do I believe in? Have you ever asked yourself that question... *Can you answer it?*

Be sure whatever you believe is because you have really sat down and thought about it and not just due to how you were raised. Not how influenced from a media source or an "icon" of sorts, or for that matter an entire void of belief altogether possibly composing your belief system and subsequently being the basis for what you believe. Because if that's the only reason you believe it, then you don't really believe in anything. This, my dear reader, is the essence of this book.

This is the case for "belief system" continuum. To solve the problem to the question of believing, a library must be sought out - while many books must be found. So then - they were. Source stockpiles shall solve the maelstrom of believing madness. The investigation begins with a new and very stylish detective trend. Join in the pursuit of intellectual madness.

**And then, the [journey through]
all those]pages[happened..**

**resulting in the pages to be produced
[*holding*]**

**the trappings of an]unforgettable[
*truth..***

_.. -::[[[]] Advanced Signs of Design [[[]]::- -

)))The Creator is out there..<^>

Intelligent Design theory teaches that complex specified information (CSI) and irreducible complexity (IC) are evidences of design. For example: If you eliminated chloroplasts from plant systems, they would not be able to function. This chapter is the focus of the many signs of design that we can see, only if we look to apprehend them in the world around us. So, just what are these signs of design?

Consider modularity. When a system shows complex parts repeated more than once we say the system shows modularity. For example, a bicycle has two identical wheels, two identical brakes and many identical nut-bolt pairs. Wheels, brakes and nuts-bolts have complex specified information. Without this integrated information behind the production of these devices/structures the functioning capabilities could fail if any one part were taken away from the system. What would happen if all of the nut-bolt pairs were removed from a bicycle that required them? Total failure based on removal of complex specified parts is inevitable.

Biology at each level shows many examples of modularity. But this properly is often underestimated by evolutionists, who believe that if evolution is able to create one part then it has no problem creating many duplicates. (For further information on the probabilities of such an occurrence please open door 12.)

But this inference is not warranted. Let's analyze in detail what modularity entails using the above bicycle example. The designer designs a wheel and constructs one example of it. Then he understands that he needs another example of the wheel and so constructs the second one. This implies that the template of the wheel (or at least a reference or pointer to it) must be stored in the mind of the designer and the complete template of the wheel must be stored in the factory engineering archive (a database of some kind, even a blueprint).

A random Darwinian process has no memory; therefore, it cannot create an item with complex specified information twice. The probability of two identical items occurring randomly is the square of the probability that one will so occur. The probability of three identical items is the cube of the probability of a single occurrence and so on.

Evolutionists will claim that the solution to this problem is DNA which stores the needed templates. But this is too simplistic, in fact the following steps are necessarily involved:

- 1 > When evolution randomly creates a biological part, it must simultaneously store the fabrication instructions of the template of this part into DNA.
- 2 > The above step must have a complete functioning information processing system composed of a processor, data and language.
- 3 > Another program must exist that conserves and uses the reference to the memory address where the instructions of the template begin.

It is easy to understand that the above three steps are strictly correlated. Step 2 entails pre-existent computational capability (the process of determining what functions and

what does not). Step 1 implies evolution has the power of storing fabrication instructions and of using the pre-existent computer to do that. Step 3 is beyond the capacities of steps 1 and 2. It needs another program of its own.

The three steps form an irreducibly complex set. All three steps are necessary from the start. We must conclude that the process required to create modularity entails both complex specified information and irreducible complexity.

Modularity of complex specified parts, or organized modularity, far from being a simple matter, is beyond what blind randomness can achieve and such *is a sign of design*.

> > : .._Hierarchy:

Another clear sign of design is functional hierarchy. Hierarchy entails modularization as a prerequisite but adds another property: nesting. One can define hierarchy as nested modularity. That happens when a superior function has multiple sub-functions. (Just like if you were writing a computer program, its the sub-routines that ultimately make the *.exe work.)

Simple systems do not require hierarchical structure. But the design, fabrication, functioning, managing, and operational maintenance of complex systems hierarchical functional structure. In part, simply meaning that the more complex it becomes, the more organized it must then be to function properly. Organization points to design.

The hierarchical systems of living things are composed of cells, tissues, organs and apparatuses. Such hierarchical organization should suggest to us that organisms were designed for optimizing these systems.

Evolutionists believe that random mutations and natural selection are able to create the biological novelties that necessarily imply new hierarchical systems. But what does the architecture of hierarchy in such a system entail? Can evolution create such a functional hierarchy?

Consider the construction industry. Buildings are constructed bottom-up but only after accurate top-down design. The same holds true for organisms. They develop and grow bottom-up on the cellular level but following a top-down hierarchical design.

The very reason evolution is unable to create functional hierarchy and top-down design rests on the very concept of hierarchy. In hierarchical systems sub-functions exist only because the superior functions need them. In turn the superior functions exist only because higher functions need them and so on until the top. Thus in complex systems functional hierarchy cannot begin at the bottom. It must begin at the top as an overview of a yet to be constructed system. Unfortunately random mutation and natural selection work only at the bottom level. The overarching view necessary for functional hierarchy is far out of reach at this low level.

Moreover there is a problem of memory. Imagine that evolution creates a sub-function before it has created the function itself. It must store its reference to the as yet non-existent parent function somewhere. Now evolution creates the parent function and must recall the reference to the sub-function to use it. Repeatedly evolution must write many reference trees which must interact with one another in complex specified ways. It is difficult to conceive of a blind process - lacking memory, writing function and reading function - producing either the hierarchies or their nested relationships. In short, unguided evolution cannot achieve nested hierarchy because such a system cannot be constructed on an ad hoc, jerry-built basis. It must be conceived as a whole before construction begins.

Functional hierarchy is indeed at *the very core of complex systems design*.

> > : .._Hologramaticity:

According to the terminology of systems theory: a system is hologramatic when every part of the system (at a certain hierarchical level) contains all the information of the system. For example, living organisms are hologramatic systems because each of their cells contains all information necessary to produce the organism. In this case the hierarchical level which contains the total information must be at the cellular level, which underlies the tissue, organ and apparatus levels. Because all organisms develop from the cellular level starting from a single cell.

To be hologramatic, a system need not be modular and hierarchical. In a sense, a cake-mix box with its recipe written on its package is hologramatic. The cake does not self-reproduce. It needs an external processor (a cook) to read the instructions on the package to create a new instance of the cake.

Organisms, beyond being modular and hierarchical, are hologramatic too. Hologramaticity is a sign for non self-reproduction. In the 1940s, years before the discovery of DNA and molecular machines, the mathematician J. Von Neumann, in his studies about self-reproducing automata, proved that self-reproduction requires stored instructions. Unlike the cake-box biological self-reproduction needs internal processors. Stored instructions (data or programs) must be written in a language. Here again we find the basic irreducibility complex (IC) ternary: processor, language and data (or programs).

Why is it that random evolution cannot create biological hologramaticity? A random process, when running, does not record what it is doing anywhere. Yet running and writing must be twin, highly correlated, processes. Randomness does not have the ability to pipe its data into a coupled recording stream on the fly. This ability needs to be designed. For example in informatics some programs are specially designed to write log files of what they do. Some of these log files are re-executable (i.e. able to redo the job).

But all these features must be meticulously designed. Also in informatics many programs trace nothing. The default is no trace and no log (and consequently no redo capability). Randomness, being a new bottom-level process (the simplest of all), obviously applies the default. Evolution is simply random because the "post-processing" of natural selection can add nothing to the business. Natural selection (rewarding the fittest) cannot help to write stored instructions.

We must conclude that hologramaticity *is a high landmark of design.*

> > : .._Alarming:

Every designer of systems know that to put together modular, hierarchical and hologramatic systems which will work well 24 hours a day for a long span of time requires further systems for alarming and repairing. Without such systems there can be no reliability.

The job of every alarm system is to scan the system iteratively for damage and send a signal to a supervisor in charge of repairing or eliminating the damage. A functional alarm/repair system is composed of the following parts:

- 1 > Scanning system overseeing events within the system being controlled. (recognizing danger before effecting the organisms well-being)
- 2 > Recognition system to distinguish harmful from non-harmful events. (intelligent assessment based on knowledge and conditions)
- 3 > An alert signal sending system reporting to a supervisor. (reaction, preventative measures applied to situation)
- 4 > Repair system triggered by the supervisor to repair or eliminate the damage. (recovery ability)

It's easy to see that to achieve the alarm and repair function the above set is irreducibly complex. All parts are necessary from the start.

Can Darwinian evolution produce this irreducibly necessary set of functions? Darwinian evolution is composed of two parts: a random mutation generator and a natural selection optimizer. Random mutation does not scan, recognize, send signals nor repair. It simply produces events (mutations) which are usually harmful. But the goal of an alarm system is not to harm individuals but indeed the opposite: to fix them. Neither does natural selection perform any of the four functions. It simply eliminates individuals with low fitness. But the goal of an alarm system is not to eliminate individuals but indeed the opposite: to fix them.

Since neither random mutation nor natural selection is capable of performing any of the four functions of alarming/repairing, then Darwinian evolution could not have generated the countless examples of the alarm/repair function we find in organisms.

The presence of alarming/repairing features inside a system is evidence of a design. Organisms are modular, hierarchical, hologramatic and contain alarming capabilities. All these are signs of advanced design.

> > : .._Advanced Design: > > In Action ..

The Blue Moth of Europe is a magnificent example for this demonstration. The meadows are the home to this blue winged creature. What remains to be one of the most peculiar of all events taking place in the meadow is the dependence the Blue Moth has on another species for its reproduction to incorporate success. Your everyday run of the mill Ant is the most important creature in the life of a Blue Moth. In order for the development of the young of this Blue Moth she searches out a nearby Ant colony, making

careful plans before laying her larvae near the opening of a Ant colony. Only after this, does a most intelligible process make way. Sure enough, the Ant's find the larvae but instead of eating it just like they would any other larvae that made it's way to the ground, instead they take it into the colony. The reason for this "child abduction" is due to the smell (pheromone) that the larvae is emitting, so naturally the Ant's think it smells like one of theirs, so it must be one of theirs. The Ant's move the larvae deep into the colony where the rest of the eggs are stored. While inside the colony the larvae confuses the Ant's even more by mimicking the sounds of a young Ant when becoming hungry, while the response of course is only the catering of the Ants to this crying young ones appetite. Though this intermingling may seem to be enough to demonstrate advanced design and irreducible complexity in it's finest, but it gets even better.

Meanwhile, there is a Wasp in the same environment that is well aware that this "child abduction" / "foster parent" situation is going on. Out of the 300 plus Ant colonies in the area, the Wasp can hunt out one colony that has a Blue Moth larvae inside. Keep in mind, the egg chamber in your average Ant colony is about 1.8-2.4ft underground - the Wasp had to be designed for this. The Wasp, just like the Blue Moth that laid the larvae - is only trying to lay it's larvae. Enter the Wasp into the colony only to be greeted by hundreds of angry warrior Ants, no problem for the Wasp she just sprays a pheromone that confuses the Ants - they begin attacking and killing each other while completely losing sight of the Wasp altogether. Back to the mission at hand the Wasp quickly locates the Blue Moth larvae, after injecting it with her egg the Wasp leaves - mission complete. As the now "joint" Blue Moth and Wasp larvae goes into cocoon stages, the ants keep the outside shell nice and clean. Note: if it were not for the Blue Moth's pheromone the Ant's would eat the Wasp egg. The Wasp lacks the same

pheromone the Ant's have so only with the help of the Moth is the relationship and the reproduction of the Wasp accomplished. No complications occur during the metamorphism while with time the Blue Moth and the Wasp break out together of their foster parents home: only to start the process all over again.

Irreducibility (irremovable) of the pheromones of both the Blue Moth larvae and Wasp are obviously the necessity by which they operate under reproductive methods. Without these pheromones the insects could simply not continue on, it is a necessity to their existing. The Ants would most certainly eat the Wasp alive without the pheromone of protection. Blue Moths could by no means survive without the mimicking of Ant noises for want of hunger and growth in turn starving by lack of ability to call upon the Ants for food. The ability to call for food largely depends on the Blue Moth, without this ability the Wasp larvae would starve to death as would the Blue Moth. These components are utmost required, clearly they point to a designer. Actually the relationship that these three creatures share could never have occurred by random chance at all. In order for the Blue Moth to exist, it must have Ants, while at the same time the Wasp is dependent on both. This relationship, did not evolve (in saying it did is mathematically absurd), due to the fact that for the Blue Moth and Wasp to exist, the Ants must exist, in order for the Wasp to exist the Blue Moth must exist. This leads to only one conclusion: They all had to come into existence at the same time. No other explanation is logical.

Question: Is there any intelligence involved in the design and construction of a home? Is it possible to recognize intelligence behind this construction? How about in nature? An arrowhead or stones in a circle - would a person recognize that intelligence had been at work? Of course; everyone knows that rain, wind and water could not produce such order. It is a mark of intelligence. Yet while atheist Isaac Asimov (author of I-Robot) recognized, "The brain is the

most complex orderly structure in the universe," he would not accept the possibility that God could exist. He has observed the handiwork of God, but does not acknowledge it as such because of his bias.

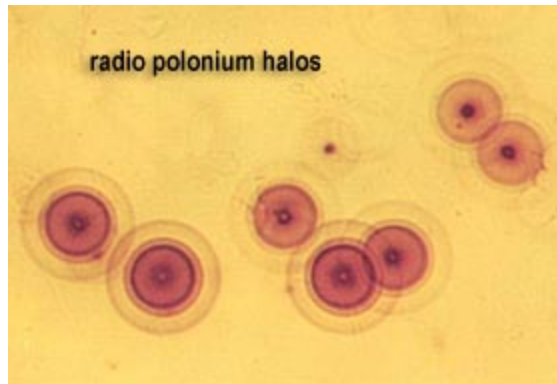
We are told to look to nature, to all things, as evidence of design: "But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air; and they shall tell thee: Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee; and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee: Who knoweth not in all these things that the Lord hath wrought this? In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind." (Job 12:7-10) Since it is obvious that the animals were designed, what does the earth have to say about the matter. The door to the earth's demonstration of design has been opened, come - see the halos..

_... -:: [[]] H a l o s [[]]::- -

))The Proof of Instantaneous Creation((

Robert Gentry, the leading geologist behind this breakthrough discovery is the owner of the hand that we should all be shaking. Thanks to his investigation of the earth, we can now understand exactly why it had to be created instantly, rather than being a "molten ball of lava slowly cooling for millions of years." Discovered in 1995, while focusing on granite from around the world Gentry realized that what he was looking at was the proof for creation. Encased inside the granite (the foundation rock of the earth) are found to be tiny micro-spheres (halos) of polonium (a radioactive isotope used mainly in satellites). As odd as this seems it's even stranger still considering as to how much the secondary opinion on the earth's existence is said to be "self originating" where as "instantly made" is the other world view. Well, the way that polonium reacts does not coincide with how it became trapped inside the granite. Actually the type of polonium that is encased in the granite is known to be almost extinct. Due to the massive depths inside the earth that this granite is found, one has to question the half-life of the polonium inside the granite. What is even more astounding still is how this half-life suggests that the element could be no older than 6,000 years.

So you have a visual frame of reference the following image is what radio polonium halos look like under the microscope. Keep in mind that they are encased *inside* of granite:



The dates put on the earth by the Bible. From Gentry's website "<http://www.halos.com>," he explains this evidence of creation:

"The following simple analogy will show how these polonium micro-spheres - or halos - contradict the evolutionary belief that granite's formed as hot magma slowly cooled over millions of years. To the contrary, this analogy demonstrates how these halos provide unambiguous evidence of both an almost instantaneous creation of granite's and the young age of the earth.

A speck of polonium in molten rock can be compared to an Alka-Seltzer dropped into a glass of water. The beginning of effervescence is equated to the moment that polonium atoms begin to emit radioactive particles. In molten rock the traces of those radioactive particles would disappear as quickly as the Alka-Seltzer bubbles in water. But if the water were instantly frozen (made hard, like granite in order for it to be trapped), the bubbles would be preserved. Likewise, polonium halos could have formed only if the rapidly "effervescing" specks of polonium had been instantly encased in solid rock.

An exceedingly large number of polonium halos are embedded in granite's around the world. Just as frozen Alka-Seltzer bubbles would be clear evidence of the quick-freezing of the water, so are these many polonium halos undeniable evidence that a sea of primordial matter quickly "froze" into solid granite. The occurrence of these polonium halos, then, distinctly implies that our earth was formed in a very short time, in complete harmony with the biblical record of creation."

It is good to note : with this single discovery alone, all of evolution is false. And that the earth had to have been made, by an intelligent designer. Thus, enter God. No other questions need be asked, it's just the way it is - who can defy reality? Which leads us to the next door regarding the system of design to examine closely - Who did it? The Bible offers an explanation : "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). Is there any other explanation? To this question the door must be opened to the adventure into the chaotic system of design. The door to fractal geometry has been opened to explore instantaneous creation by numbers underneath the chaos of human perception where lies intelligent design revealed in the orderly blueprint of nature's construction. ..

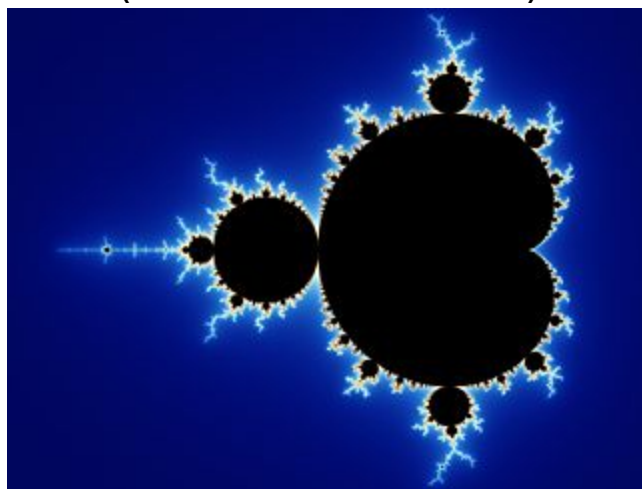
Fractal Geometry

The Creator's Design System((

Old science actually used to think that if you only knew all of the initial conditions, how the clock worked, you could predict what would happen at any point in time. Science assumed that everything could be known and eventually predicted. While for the most part many scientists today still believe in such a thing. Since most call this behavior arrogance, so then it must be. The Universe was ruled by a detailed system of unchanging laws. Cosmos and causality reigned supreme. Even worshiped by countless practitioners of the scientific community, but lets not name names. There was no room for chaos and so it was conveniently swept under the rug. The numbers were just too big to understand. The inevitable outcome of the ordered machine view was the complete winding down of the clock, the end of time in complete entropy - the second law of thermodynamics where everything tends to breakdown, to dissipate. This big picture of science naturally spawned the "God is dead" philosophies, nihilism, the life nausea of existentialism, behavioralism, communism and the like. Now with the Chaos theories this paradigm is itself dead. As a new venue of understanding has been discovered - the astonishing world of fractals. A whole new scientific view has been born, one much more in accord with an organic view, the common law, and philosophies of hope and spirit.

Fractal geometry and the insights of the science of Chaos (which is really order) are based on Complex Numbers (thus the "Chaos", you'll see why). Unlike all other numbers, such as the natural numbers one through nine for instance 1.2.3.4.5.6.7.8.9, the Complex Numbers do not exist on a horizontal number line. They exist only on an x-y coordinate time plane where regular numbers on the horizontal grid combine with so called "Imaginary Numbers" on the vertical grid. Imaginary Numbers are simply numbers where a negative times a negative creates a negative, not a positive, like is the rule with all other numbers. In other words, with imaginary numbers $-2 \text{ times } -2 = -4$, not $+4$. The Complex Numbers when iterated - subject to constant feedback - produce Fractal Scaling as is shown by the Mandelbrot set: $z \rightarrow z^2 + c$ where $c = \text{any complex number}$. \rightarrow means iteration, the feedback process where the end result of the last calculation becomes the beginning constant of the next: $z^2 + c$ becomes the z in the next repetition. Like life, it is a dynamic equation, existing in time, but not a static equation. Welcome to the real world of irreducible complex numbers behind and inside of every structure your eyes see, and don't see...

(The Mandelbrot Set)



Every point in the plane of complex numbers is either outside the Mandelbrot set, infinite, or inside of it, finite. The Mandelbrot fractal thus portrays two-dimensionally the infinity between the whole numbers zero and one, the potential and the actual. This is the world of Man and the basis of all computer operations. The border which defines our area between the finite and the infinite - where our potential can come into actuality - is impossible to determine exactly. It is subject to the strange attractor. You never know when you may fall into or out of it, or how. The closer you look, the more you magnify by choosing a new c close to the last one chosen, the more the fractal complexities repeat with recognizable patterns - but rarely identical - to define an infinitely irregular border.

The black parts of the Mandelbrot fractal plot the stable iterations on the complex plane. When a complex number is attracted to infinity, small or large, it is either not plotted on the graph or is shown as a color according to the number of iterations it takes before the complex number begins its exponential spiral into infinity.

Although not the first to suppose that all things could be explained by numbers and are in fact composed of endless computations of equations. Mandelbrot certainly refined the system by explaining the natural world through numbers by this, making a startling realization that Pythagoras only dreamed of. Not seeking ultimacy in some material element, as the many philosophers who came before his time is just what Pythagoras did - he sought after the article of discovery in which cannot be debated; the truth. Living around 500 B.C. rather than the ideas held at the time, which were mainly superstitious or quite singular, he held a curious view that all things are numbers. Literally understood, this seems absurd, but among other things, Pythagoras meant that a correct description of reality must be expressed in terms of mathematical formulas. Sure

enough he put the practice into action. Furthermore, he anticipated the bulk of Euclid's writings on geometry and discovered the ratios of concord between musical sound and number. From this he deduced a mathematical harmony throughout the universe, a view that led to the doctrine of "the Music of Spheres." As for keeping his legacy alive it was seen that if it had not been for his ideas casting a spell on Plato there would have been no guarantee Pythagoras would have a permanent place in the history of philosophy. Luckily, due to the influence he had on Plato - we remember him "pre-founding" the structure for fractal geometry.

While still considering the founding members of fractal geometry and subsequently the influencing parties of Benoit Mandelbrot - a formidable factor resides in quite possibly the world's most infamous book. Due to massive, and frequent scientific notions of depth held in very archaic and sometimes poetic stanzas, with all and all the Bible holds a firm grip on the entirety of reality. However, even to the most skeptical of critics - of course those who reside into interpretation without the tragic occurrence of "stereotypical" deduction, it seems as if fractal geometry was said long ago by the prophet Isaiah when he recorded the words God had given him:

Lift up your eyes on high,
And see who has created these things.
~ Who brings out their host by number;
He calls them all by name,
By the greatness of His might
And the strength of His power;
Not one is missing.
(Isaiah 40:26)

As strange and heart shaking this statement is, the consideration of it's application adds to the implications

which were recorded by the widely renowned messenger of God, Isaiah. To appropriately demonstrate the blue print system established by the Designer, is not only an honor to learn but an undertaking to understand and apply. It could be accurately said that George Cantor understood and applied this concept to his life by discovering it. He decided that he was going to take a line and erase the middle of the line. Resulting in two lines, then four then sixteen and so on. Then he repeated this process over and over, an infinite number of times which is the beauty of being able to do such things which are only possible in math. He then ended up with an infinite number of lines each of which has an infinite number of points in them. So he realized that he had a set whose number of elements was larger than infinity. And this blew his mind - literally, he checked into a sanitarium. And when he came out of the sanitarium he was convinced that he was put on earth to found the "Transfinite Set Theory" because the largest set of infinite numbers would be God himself. He was a very religious man - a mathematician on a mission and the responsible founder for the world of fractal geometry practiced today.

It operates like this:

When iteration of a squaring process is applied to non-complex numbers the results are always known and predictable. For instance when any non-complex number greater than one is repeatedly squared, it quickly approaches infinity: $1.1 * 1.1 = 1.21 * 1.21 = 1.4641 * 1.4641 = 2.14358$ and after ten iterations the number created is $2.43... * 10$ which written out is 2,430,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000. A number so large as to dwarf even the national debt. Mathematicians say of this size number that it is approaching infinity. The same is true for any non-complex number which is less than one, but in reverse; it quickly goes to the infinitely small, the zero. For example with .9:

[illegible]

But the magic comes by adding the constant c (a complex number) to the squaring process and starting from z at zero: $z \rightarrow z^2 + c$. Then stable iterations - a set attracted to neither the infinitely small or infinitely large - become possible. The potentially stable complex numbers lie both outside and inside of the circle of $z = 1$; specifically on the complex plane they lie between -2.4 and $.8$ on the real number line, the horizontal x grid, and between -1.2 and $+1.2$ on the imaginary line, the vertical y grid. These complex numbers in effect stay within the meso-cosmic realm, the world of man, even if the $z \rightarrow z^2 + c$ iteration process goes on forever. These numbers are contained within the black of the Mandelbrot fractal. Due to such density the calculations force out any color but the line plot itself. Amazing isn't it?

In the Mandelbrot formula $z \rightarrow z^2 + c$, where you always start the iterative process with z equals zero, and c equaling any complex number, an endless series of seemingly random or chaotic numbers are produced. Like the weather,

the stock market and other chaotic systems, negligible changes in quantities, coupled with feedback, can produce unexpected chaotic effects. The behavior of the complex numbers thus mirrors the behavior of the fourth dimension, the real world where Chaos is obvious and lurks behind the most ordered of systems. Chaos so complex we view it as disordered due to the overwhelming amount of understanding involved to apprehend the true order behind it all.

Every military throughout the world has a command to "halt." To stop, dictation to cease one's movement, the masses stand at attention awaiting orders. This is the paragraph where the halting pretends, orders begin. The above information is very pressing on the mind especially if it is a new creature to the mind. For a more beneficial method of application to multiply the understanding of a bizarre and new substance is a series of questions to suit this special task. Please, ponder the following for your sake, then proceed only after doing so. Is there a pre-thought of numerical design behind whatever structure you may be in? Behind every piece of art, does an equation remain necessary for it's form? Does a bookshelf have dimensions? So then it must have a designers thought out numerical consideration.. Are you beginning to see the numbers all around you? Vision the length of the structures walls, now persuade the eyes to conceive their depth, internal structure (density, dimensions, lengths and widths, numbers). Now with depth perception gain the equivalents of every shape the eyes can see. The decorations on the walls, the size, shape of all things, length of carpet threads, density of cushions, thickness of pages, and on and on. Are you beginning to see the numbers all around you? Has it ever occurred to you that escaping numbers is impossible?

More on how it works:

With some values of c the iterative process immediately begins to exponentially increase or fall into infinity. These numbers are completely outside of the Mandelbrot set of "meso-cosmic" dynamics. With other values of c the iterative process is stable for a number of repetitions, and only later in the dynamic process are attracted to infinity. These are the unstable strange attractor numbers just on the outside edge of the Mandelbrot set. They are shown on computer graphics with colors or shades of grey according to the number of stable iterations. The values of c which remain stable, repeating as a finite number forever, never attracted to infinity, and thus within the mesocosmic set, the Mandelbrot set, are plotted as black.

Some iterations of complex numbers like $1 - 1i$ run off into infinity from the start, just like all of the real numbers. Other complex numbers are always stable like $-1 + 0i$. Other complex numbers stay stable for many iterations, and then only further into the process do they unpredictably begin to start to increase or decrease exponentially (for example, $.37 + 4i$ stays stable for 12 iterations). These are the numbers on the edge of inclusion of the stable numbers shown in black. Chaos enters into the iteration because out of the potentially infinite number of complex numbers in the window of -2.4 to $.8$ along the horizontal real number axis, and -1.2 to 1.2 along the vertical imaginary number axis, there are an infinite subset on the edge which are subject to the unpredictable strange attractor. All that we know about these edge numbers is that if the z produced by any iteration lies outside of a circle with a radius of 2 on the complex plane, then the subsequent z values will go to infinity, and there is no need to continue the process.

By using a computer you can escape the normal limitations of human time. Without computers the discovery of fractals would have been nearly impossible. Seeing how the numbers dealt with are mind bogglingly big. The likelihood

of a mathematician plotting out every portion of a fractal set is basically (logically), humanly impossible considering that fractals continue on into an infinite chain of recursive patterns. You can try a very large number of different complex numbers and iterate them to see what kind they may be. Under the Mandelbrot formula you start with z equals zero and then try different values for c . When a particular value of c is attracted to infinity - produces a value for z greater than 2 - then you stop that iteration, go back to z equals zero again, and try another c , and so on, over and over again, millions and millions of times as only a computer can do. Are you now beginning to see how the blueprint system for all structures is only made decipherable through computers? If not, calculate the equation with 1,500+ pages and then reaffirm your answer.

Mandelbrot was the first to discover that by using zero as the base z for each iteration, and trying a large number of the possible complex numbers with a computer on a trial and error basis, that he could define the set of stable complex numbers graphically by plotting their location on the complex plane. While some were playing with Gi-Joe's and Barbie dolls, Benoit Mandelbrot was playing with numbers, lots and lots of numbers. This is exactly what the Mandelbrot figure is. Along with this discovery came the surprise realization of the beauty and fractal recursive nature of these numbers when displayed graphically. Thus creating a new form of art which can now be seen in any college textbook.

Mandelbrot's formula summarizes many of the insights he gained into the fractal geometry of nature, the real world of the fourth dimension. This contrasts markedly with the idealized world of Euclidean forms of the first (now obsolete), second and third dimensions which had preoccupied almost all mathematicians (these dimensions only exist on paper and in thought) before Mandelbrot.

Euclidean geometry was concerned with abstract perfection almost non-existent in nature. It could not describe the shape of a cloud, a mountain, a coastline or a tree. As Mandelbrot said in his book *The Fractal Geometry of Nature* (1983): "Clouds are not spheres, mountains are not cones, coastlines are not circles, and bark is not smooth, nor does lightning travel in a straight line." Before Mandelbrot, mathematicians believed that most of the patterns of nature were far too complex, irregular, fragmented and amorphous to be described mathematically thus the fallacy taught by Euclidean geometry. But Mandelbrot conceived and developed a new geometry of nature based on the fourth dimension and Complex numbers which is capable of describing mathematically the most amorphous and chaotic forms of the real world. As Mandelbrot said: "Fractal geometry is not just a chapter of mathematics, but one that helps Everyman to see the same world differently."

Benoit Mandelbrot had found the blue print left behind from of the Designer of nature, the universe and everything that in them is, including the construction of the human body (currently being researched) and on and on. As astonishing as that may sound, and quite unbelievable: it's true. To better describe an occurrence that is entirely visual it would only be proper to display them, seeing as they are entirely meant for the eyes. So here the blue prints made by complex numbers and infinite cycles of computing are in accordance to their actual occurrence in nature:

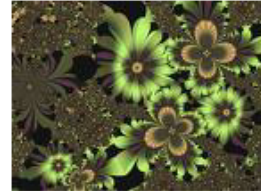
NATURAL FORM

FRACTAL FORM

TREES



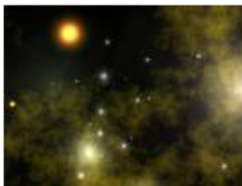
FLOWERS



MOUNTAINS



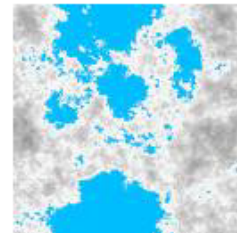
GALAXIES



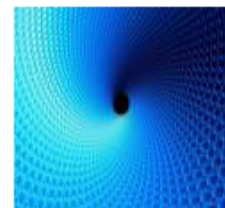
FERNS



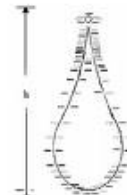
CLOUDS



BLACK HOLES



WATER



The order of numbers so complex that nearly no ordinary man can comprehend the infinitely recursive scales the order of the sets builds to: is a sign of design. In no way conceivable could an unintelligent event create such infinite complexity, contemplate this for yourself. How absurd an idea to ever cross a man's mind the concept: truly is that nothing made everything. Fractal geometry explains the patterns we see in nature by saying - there is a complex design behind it. For this reason being so obvious when one is looking, the question must then be asked: Who designed it? The door to the insanity of conflicting beliefs is opened.. .

_.. -::[[]] The Sum of ALL Religions [[]]::- -

))Harmony Meets Discord((-

All of academia tells us > >

There are only two world-views:

God made the universe. (*Creationist*)

or

The universe made itself. (*Naturalist*)

Every belief system is built upon a philosophy that revolves around a faith-based premise. This is even so when "naturalism" is called a religion. Not so? Religion is exactly the right word to describe naturalism. Its basic presupposition - a rejection of everything supernatural - requires a giant leap of faith. And nearly all its supporting theories must be taken by faith as well. In saying that the world has always been as it is and that nothing created it, life forms and elements, is a naturalistic world-view. Everybody has some kind of religion. "What?" you say. "I

don't believe in God - I don't have religion." Well, your lack of religion is your religion. Everyone needs something to believe in. They need something bigger than themselves to be a part of (even if it's the belief in nothing). Our whole life is a search for identity; we're trying to figure out who we are and why we're here. People have come up with lots of different opinions on the matter over the history of mankind, but they're all trying to figure out how this place called earth works.

Both possibilities are equally frightening. Either we are riding on a ball of dirt flying through this solar system at 66,000 miles per hour and no one is in control. Or, someone (God) is in control and from a personal basis one may or may not know just who that is. If no one is in control, then who's to say what really matters anyway? If some one is in control and we don't know them, we'd better - common sense tells us it's a crucial property of existence. Another question still that engulfs many thinkers the world over is that once one discovers the more logical of the two scenarios is true the question: "Do you want to find out who?" always rises from the ashes of the discussion.

What is so interesting about comparing every religion out there is that there is a bond that they all have. Not just the subjectivity but also the entire system of theology itself. There are tons of religions, that's a given but what is objective while being very observable is that Christianity and Judaism are the only religions where God actually saves His creation. In all the other religions man saves himself or doesn't care about mankind at all. What's the big deal with that, you ask? Well, if man can save himself from death, why does he need God?

_ . - [} > Pascal's Wager < {] : - -

Although not a religion, its a great idea : This guy a long time ago named Pascal thought up something that's now known as Pascal's Wager. He said that if God exists, he'd better believe in Him. If he doesn't believe in Him then he's in trouble. If He doesn't exist, then it doesn't hurt him to believe in Him while he's alive, so he might as well believe. It's almost too logical and sensible to be misunderstood. Get it? What a logical decision, but what is logical?

Plato's Logic

Thinking Reasonably?

A highly useful trait to acquire when dealing with information is to not only to see where they (source) are coming from but the calculation they want you to deduce from their information (what they want you to think). Now, if the equation (philosophical composure) is tricky (lucid lies) then it is good to grasp the ability to see these things before they enter into the control room of your mind. With this as the foreground for assessment, it pleases me to introduce Plato's Logic:

The Subject of Logic: *"Syllogisms"*

All Plato's logic revolves around one notion: the deduction (sullogismos). A thorough explanation of what a deduction is, and what they are composed of, will necessarily lead us through the whole of his theory. What, then, is a deduction? Plato says: "A deduction is speech (logos) in which, certain things having been supposed, something different from those supposed results of necessity because of their being so. Each of the "things supposed" is a premise (protasis) of the argument, and what "results of necessity" is the conclusion (sumperasma). The core of this definition is the notion of "resulting of necessity" (sumbainein). This corresponds to a modern notion of logical consequence: X results of necessity from Y and Z if it would be impossible for X to be false when Y and Z are true. We could therefore take this to be a general definition of "valid argument".

With this in mind, ("testing all things"), would it be logical to say that the author of this book is Adrian Brody? No, why? Because at no point do any of the key factors leading up to that conclusion ever point to such an erroneous position regarding authorship: do they? Since, logic is a "knowledge based" system as later pointed out in the late 1700s by Aurthur Schopenhauer; then logic is dependent on information. In order to form an opinion on any matter a prior education on that matter is required. Whether that information comes from a conversation, book, TV, or music.. the list is endless but be rest assured that whatever you think is solely based on your knowledge. It is a condition of living that cannot be avoided - we learn whether we want to or not. Through the daily process of learning information stored in us by relation of the opinion we hold (prior to receiving more information) in reference to that matter (that opinion is already formed), only if we accept the information of course (this affects one's future outlook). The question is: Did you have the right information? Because, if you didn't; then logically you are at a disadvantage when questioned on topics that you were misinformed, logically speaking of course.

With logic floating in the vast bubbling broth of curvatures of our silky smooth, embossed thinking machines by which the utilization of (logic) : released like a grenade - decimates all faulty presuppositions - while delicately the mind reasons with itself - self-repairing the spoils - made by the information war.

Press on, continue forward to the next door.

_... -::[} > Absolute Truth <{]::-

))The Unchangeable Source((

A simple outlook on information by some who are, in most cases overwhelmed with so much contradictory information by which they have no means of making sense of - generally take this position when discussing religions or anything they are not sure of. Not knowing what to think, or how to reason what must be correct and what must be incorrect - they simply say "There is no absolute answer, everything is right because I'm too lazy to go find out for myself what's really right and wrong."

This concept of having no means at all for indefinitely determining something is without a doubt, undeniably true and came about in a conversation I had. It began with a simple question of morality to an individual who seemed to lack it, "Do you suppose that honesty is a true virtue?" He answered, "What may seem true to you may seem false to me." In reply I said, "So, what you're saying is that there are no absolute truths, right?" He took a moment, then said, "Yes.". Making a note in the faulty in his logic I replied: "Are you absolutely sure there are no absolutes?" He quickly saw his dilemma and responded that there is no absolute truth. I then asked another question, "Are you absolutely positive there is no absolute truth?" Again he saw his predicament and quickly countered with, "There is no absolute right and wrong." I queried, "Is that right? Are you absolutely certain that there is no absolute right and wrong?" By this time he began to see the error in this kind of irrational thinking. Finally, in a last attempt to save himself from the snare of his

own words, he contended there were no absolutes in words, and that I was just playing a game of semantics. Gently, I tried to help him understand the idea that absolutes do exist by using an absolute to do so. He sincerely believed his logic was right. He was using the absolutes of logic in attempt to show that logic is not an absolute.

If one believes life evolved by chance, then the brain evolved by chance. And if the brain evolved by chance, then one's logic evolved by chance, in which case, one's logic may be faulty. How can one be sure it evolved the right way? If there are no absolutes, one cannot be sure about anything. One cannot even be sure that he's real. That's why there is an absolute truth, it's the nature of the condition in which the universe is. Gravity has an absolute - steady - nature that it does not change from. It is absolutely true that people have feet, hands, brains, and nostrils; among other things that are absolutely true that don't need mentioning. Get it?

> > : .._Situational Ethics: Those Without Absolute's...

In the minds of those who believe the universe somehow sprung into being, there is no such thing as moral absolutes. Everything is evaluated in a situational context. Unfortunately, we are seeing the result of such morality in our society. Morality has become whatever individuals determine it to be. Television talk shows add to the confusion. They are notorious for having guests with an obvious lack of wisdom. It seems the more ludicrous or deviant the guest's views, the better. Guests are often asked for their beliefs on controversial issues of the day, such as transvestite marriage, spouse swapping or homosexual marriages. Their answers reveal that they have no basis for their views: "Oh, it's wrong; it's not normal, it makes me uncomfortable; I can't accept that." Or on the other side of

the coin, "People can do what they like." But rarely do the guests have any reasons for their views; they merely express personal dislikes or cultural and traditional values. Without an understanding of why absolutes are essential in life - one will become lost in the madness of mindlessness.

_.. -::[}> Wisdom Driven? <{]::-

))1001110010001((

Do you know everything there is to know? No ..well do you know half of everything that there is to know? Alright, so doesn't it seem possible that God exists in the other half of things you don't know? "The fear of Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction." (Proverbs 1:7) the Scripture's say it is impossible for a man to come to wisdom without fearing God - apparently. Some say that God doesn't even exist (how can they get wisdom?), but do they know that, or do they think that? Just a quick examination of their faulty logic is a must for this examination: It is impossible for any human being to prove that or even know that, when the evidence points to Him existing it's stupid to say He doesn't.

While at the same time it's ridiculous for anyone to believe that God doesn't exist for a few simple reasons: One would have to "know-everything," if any knowledge they do not have, then in that knowledge God could exist. One would have to "be-everywhere," if not in all places at the same time in the universe and outside the universe - in that place God could be. What is going on at your local Barnes and Noble right now? You don't know because you're not there, so since your not there God could be there.

The atheistic world view is obviously a view based on ignorance and a lack of knowledge. Hoping God doesn't exist to atheistic thinkers; so they can justify their actions within parameters of their own self-invented morality is very evident among atheists. To keep on stealing from their

employer and neighbors without being punished is just a dream to them, just as drinking twenty four hours a day may seem proper as well. An idea based on luck and selfishness drives the mentality of atheism. What information a person does not understand they retaliate against because they know nothing else. Wisdom tells us when we encounter something that we don't understand, we should consider it. "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding." (Proverbs 4:7)

Judgment is coming for those left unjudged by the governments of the world. Have you ever wanted justice to be done when someone wronged you and got away with it? Be assured and rejoice in this: justice is coming, just as God is judging (everyones deeds) - your wrongs will be made right and those whose deeds crushed you shall themselves be crushed by their own atrocities. But which god is going to bring about justice? Find out .

- .^ . - } Examination Process { - .^ . -

A vast number of religions exclude, or have no answer in relation at all, to the "How did it all get here?" question, but rather these religions explain what we are to do while we are living in order to achieve the desired "after-life" of our choice. Instead of thinking "Why life and how did I get here?" these religions are simply ancient guidebooks on what to do while you're alive. For this reason, the only explanation that these religions offer as to the origin of life in general is: absolutely none; so therefore the only explanation pertaining to origins that the people's of these religions have are that of the evolution theory in describing why they are alive.

Thus making a huge division into the topic of religions, which in itself is really, all about origins to begin with. As fortunate as this perpetual event seems, it's even better than you think because evolution is a religion, in so placing

it in a preexisting religion makes two religions. Since the origin of the people's of the religion depend upon evolution as the basis for their existence then if evolution is a fallacy then so is the religion that relies on it as the origin model. If the foundation is taken away from the house, it crumbles to the ground - no questions asked because it can be observed, that's science. So if evolution is in fact false, then the religions that use it for their basis are then also false. Fortunate for those who logically approach information: this is a great help for those who fail to apprehend the skill.

Every religion in this world cannot be right about God. All of them can't be true. The very definition of "truth" cries out that only one thing can be true. They all can't be talking about the same god because if they were then they would agree, wouldn't they? Only one way can be God's way. This is a great dilemma for man. If the Catholics are right in what they teach, then all the Protestant churches are wrong. If a particular Protestant group is right, then the Catholics are wrong, and so is every other Protestant group. If Judaism is true, then all Christianity is false. If Islam is true, then Judaism and Christianity are false. If Shinto is true then everything else is wrong except Shinto. Only one way and one truth can be genuine! Do you see the dilemma?

One of the most difficult things for people to do is admit they are wrong. Human nature tends to see itself as being right. We hold to our opinions and beliefs on nearly every subject as though we are right, and all others who are in disagreement are simply wrong. Think about it. Isn't that the way we are? It doesn't matter where you turn or what you address, you constantly see people with different opinions at odds with each other. This reason in part is largely influenced by fraudulent information and extreme traditional roots that unique cultures defend with the unchangeable nature of the sword. Seeing such occurrences,

violence acted out by those who only know about others like themselves, is appalling but its frequency rings through every day. The world has been flooded with books that contain everything that man can imagine. Whatever subject interests you, something has been written about it. Is it any wonder that man is so skeptical? Is it any wonder that man is so confused, especially when it comes to so many different ideas - so much contradiction about God?

> > : .._ . - : Chart Key::]

As follows are the religions based on either:

Monotheism (one God) marked by **O**

Polytheism (many gods) marked by **P**

Atheistic (nothing made everything-evolution) marked by **A**

Pantheism (everything is god) marked by **M**.

Humanistic (people are gods) marked by **H**

> > : .._Leading organized religious world views of the world:

Baha'i **O,P** Rastafarianism **O**

Buddhism **A,H** Romani **P,M**

Confucianism **A** Satanism **P,A,H**

Hare Krishna **P,M** Shinto **P**

Hinduism **P** Sikhism **O,M**

Islam **O** Taoism **A,H**

Jainism **A,H** Vedanta **A**

Judaism **O** Zoroastrianism **O**

Mysticism **M,H** Christianity **O**

> > : .._The following are secular world views (where God does not exist) and are entirely dependent on evolution as the structure of origin based beliefs:

Agnosticism Astrology Gnosticism

Atheism Black Mass Antinomianism
Existentialism Dowsing Post-Modernism
Hypnotism Arminionism Marxism
Modernism Necromancy Atomism
Naturalism Parapsychology Paganism
Apollinarianism Rosicrucianism Baalism
Secular Humanism Shamanism Ethnocentrism
Vodun Wicca Deism
Docetism Absurdism Humanism
Koan Lamarckism Magik
Maori Mechanism Methodism
Methraism Nazism Neoplatonism
New Ageism Nihilism Occultism
Animism Pantheism Phallicism
Ramayana Romania Spiritism
Taoism Sufism Theosophy
Uniformitarianism Unitarianism Unityists
Vitalism Xenophobia

(Please note that variations of the original source of a belief system widely referred to as "sects," of any particular root religion is not listed. Such a listing would most definitely be pointless considering the root belief system is the foundation and nearly all sects either add to the pre-established structure or take away a practice, ritual, belief, etc.. An example of this in action can be found in every religion, secular, theistic, or the like. For instance they're are two sects to the Atheism religion, one is a negative practicing Atheist who knows for a fact that God does not exist but yet fails to prove this; however still believing it. Secondly is the positive practicing Atheist who requires needed evidence before a belief in God can be established. And so on through every religion. That, since rarely anyone can agree - even on pre-established beliefs - many set out to

make their own religion, thus confusing those who seek the true way.)

> > : .._The following views that one could alternatively have are considered : Cults.

- The Boston Church (u are God)
- Scientology (u can become God of a planet somewhere)
- Children of Love (orgiastic)
- Theosophy (u already are God)
- Jehovah's Witnesses (only 144,000 live forever)
- Transcendental Meditation (chant, chant, chant)
- Mormonism (u can become God)
- Unification Church (syncrenism)
- New Agers (god is a soda can; paper clip, etc..)
- Unitarian Universalist Church (syncrenism)
- The Way International (orgiastic)
- Unity Movement (syncrenism at it's finest)

(Don't let these organizations confuse you, they're not churches like they claim to be, they are cults due to the fact that they fit the classification parameters of a cult. To join one of these organizations all of your possessions and earnings go to the organizations themselves. How do you think the Mormon church became a million dollar industry overnight? The same thing goes for Scientology, founded by a science-fiction writer with the intent of its believers to be gods of various planets in the universe while repopulating and ruling these dead planets. They're are many more cults than the above, however the radical ideas that some may present (which they do) might sound slightly attractive - take Scientology for example - but the question must be

asked: "Is any of it true, and how can this be a fact when all of the evidence points to it being a pleasant fiction?")

**On to the various moral and theological
adversities found in these vastly differing
world-view doctrines...**

**Just who are these people;
...and what do they believe?**

_.. -::[}>Evolutionary Theory Religion<{]::-

))Nothing=Everything((

A belief system of the past concocted by people who were not there. They insist that fossils, plants, animals, rocks, the physical laws of nature, etc. that are observable today provide conclusive evidence about the past (even though all evidence used to support evolution has scientifically been disproved). They assume that the earth took millions of years to be as it now is, only undergoing slight changes while some believe that it was a super continent (Pangea) varying degrees are still argued as with any religion. Webster's Dictionary defines religion as a "cause, principle or system of beliefs held to with ardor." This could not more distinctly describe evolutionism. One evidence that

evolutionism is truly a religion rather than science is the fact that its advocates invariably react emotionally whenever creationists question it, using phrases as: "flagrant nonsense" or "extremely dangerous," etc. Evolutionism is a belief system, a religion! These same people adamantly adhere to the theory of evolutionism as though it were fact. So, you see, it is faith in one religion vs. faith in another to them when in contact with any God based religion that does not accept their religion on the basis of all existence. What the evolutionary religion teaches on several levels are absolute contradictions in terms. Take their origin model for example: "Nothing=Everything?" Oh, the contradictions go even deeper when compared to scientific laws.

> > : . _Not to be Confused with Real Science:

Now, the nature of the machine for understanding. Science is: 1) *observable*; 2) *demonstratable*; 3) *repeatable*. Science is the study of repeatable events and natural forces. (Natural forces are here defined to be those forces, which control repeatable events.)

Science is a powerful form of knowledge; it allows us, to some extent, to manage the material world and thus makes our lives more comfortable. However, the scientific method is sharply limited to the study of the repeatable behavior of the material world and natural forces which control it. Unfortunately, no experiment can be conducted on the behalf of evolution.

It is a misconception foisted on the public by the evolutionists that science can accurately describe the past. Evolutionists state dogmatically what dinosaurs were doing 200 million years ago. But since science depends on repeatable experiments, it cannot accurately describe anything on which there can't be an experiment. (For example: The things or actions to be tested must exist in the present.)

A courtroom, science is basically a courtroom. Another way of providing the truth beyond any reasonable doubt is known as the legal-historical method. A verdict can be reached on the basis of the weight of evidence, as long as there is no reasonable basis for doubting the truth of such a testimony. This method is practiced ever day in our nation and around the world in such prestigious places as courts of law. The legal-historical method depends on three types of testimony: oral, written and exhibitory (in the courtroom, ransom notes, weapons, fingerprints, etc.). When using the legal-historical method, it is only necessary to check out the reliability of the testifier(s). Thus making the legal system into the nature of science in the sense as to how scientific truth is discerned: logically based on evidence. If the facts

don't square up with your theory, throw it out and get a new one. No evolutionist is a scientist. If they really wanted to be scientists they would not believe in evolution. Science pertains to facts, not fictional ideas that cannot be proven; much less observed or studied. Evolution being non-scientific requires it's believers a faith based solution to the problems of ultimately viewing the world without considering the evidence that points to a Creator. Making the world view of the believer into the realization that they are an animal and morality is only subjected to their own personal views.

> > : .._The Big Bang :- -))Foundation for Evolution((

It's not as big and complicated as you might have been lead to believe. It's just how chance, time, and matter made themselves. Due to most religions using this system or origin to identify why they are here, which as evolution states: "no reason at all, a sheer matter of chance" that "the human species is no different from animals or plants because in the distant past humans were just that, and share common ancestries with plankton, shell fish, ostriches and donkeys". With any structure, the foundation is what makes it - so then the foundation of the evolution theory religion is the big bang theory. A theory based on a theory, please make note of that.

> *What they believe goes like this.*

"Most astronomers believe (cannot prove) that about 18 to 20 billion years ago all the matter in the universe was concentrated into one very dense, very hot region that may have been much smaller than a period on this page. For some unknown reason (no cause whatsoever), this region began to spin violently and exploded. This explosion is called the big bang. One result of the big bang was the formation of galaxies, all racing away from one another."

> *After all this exploding.. produced by no "cause"..*

"As earth formed, its surface may have been similar to the surface of its moon today. Craters, like those in pictures, and large plains of volcanic basalt may have marked its surface. But unlike its moon, Earth's surface was hot and there were large pools of bubbling lava."

> *It took a long-long time, for the universe's air conditioner to cool it down..*

"4.6 billion years ago earth cooled down and formed a rocky crust."

> *The oxygen formed in space where there was no oxygen..*

"But slowly rocks absorbed the oxygen. Roughly 2 billion years after the origin of life there was enough oxygen to support eukaryotes." (There was no oxygen, but the rocks absorbed it.)

> *Voila! Life from rocks!*

An evolutionist's life verse: "Saying to a stock, Thou art my father; *and to a stone, Thou has brought me forth.*" (Jeremiah 2:27)

> *Time for the nasty soup!*

"Millions of years of torrential rains created great oceans. There were giant landmasses too, but they were shaped very differently from our modern continents. These may have been only one big continent and one huge ocean. On an earth history calendar, it is now sometime in April. There is still no life, but swirling in the waters of the oceans is a bubbling broth of complex chemicals. Some of them are carbohydrates, proteins, and nucleic acids - the chemicals of life. However, the progress from a complex chemical soup to a living organism is very slow."

> Yes, boys and girls - the rocks (and rain) made the "soup" and the soup made you! "The first self replicating systems must have emerged in this organic 'soup.'"

> And then we changed very slowly from a single celled organism to an organism that has over 100,000 intricate cellular activities going on in every second of our daily lives.

Here is a way to tell the story of evolution is a sort of poetic way that may or may not shed some more light on the darkness of the theory for you:

Unknown chemicals
in the primordial past ...
through ...
Unknown processes
which no longer exist ...
produced ...
Unknown life forms
which are not to be found ...
but could, though ...
Unknown reproduction methods
spawn new life ...
in an ...
Unknown atmospheric composition ...
in an ...
Unknown oceanic soup complex ...
at an ...
Unknown time and place...

Now, the big bang sounds just absurd and irrational until you cross reference the story with actual science and find out that its even more absurd and irrational than you had ever thought before. Since the elements began to spin, and that this was the action that fueled the explosion then everything in turn should be spinning the same way. This is not so. The conservation of angular momentum states, "If an object is released from a base rotating object then the object that was released will maintain the same spin as the base object." In our solar system alone there are 81 moons, 36 of those moons spin in the opposite directions. This can even further be seen with the universe itself, entire galaxies are spinning in the opposite direction. By this law of science the big bang theory is simply a big dud and is nothing more

than sugar coated, cheese caked up rubbish - although it is not known how long the giraffes neck is (which is incorrect), it is assumed that it is about as long as a refrigerator is tall - It tastes good, but it's really just a trashy lie just like the beginning of the evolution religion.

As noted by evolution, "all elements originated from hydrogen". Now its true that you can fuse elements up to iron, but past that, nothing can be made. The where-abouts of the origin of polonium, uranium are entirely unknown because they cannot be produced by using hydrogen or by any process. Chemical evolution scientifically could simply not be the reason for these and 59 other elements origins. Yet again making evolution into science fiction rather than science fact.

Actually when we look at the earth, deep into it, the foundations of it and find that the foundation rock of the earth is granite. But what is so significant about granite is that found inside of it are polonium halos. They look like a cell to an extent; it's just a nucleus with concentric rings around it. According to evolution polonium could not exist in the granite, but it does. They believe "the earth was a molten ball of lava that over millions of years cooled," because of this - due to the excessive amount of heat - the polonium atoms would be non-existent if this were the way the earth was formed. Instead, this parcel of evidence tells us simply that in order for the polonium to exist in the earth's foundation rocks: that the earth had to be instantly created. Scientifically, there is no other way to explain the radioactive polonium isotope encased in the granite. The same goes for nearly all elements found encased within rocks deep beneath the earth. With no foundation, the rest of evolution is a farce..

> > : .._Evolutionist's Time Line:

Nothing made everything in the universe.

Big Bang 20,000,000,000 years ago

Rocky and barren like the moon, but entirely volcanic.

Earth Forms 4,600,000,000 years ago

Rained on the rocks for millions of years making soup that came alive.

Life Appears 3,000,000,000 B.C.

Man came from a chemical soup formed by wet rocks.

Man Evolves 3,000,000 B.C.

> > : .._The inflation rate of the age of the earth as proposed by evolution:

In 1770 the textbooks say the earth is 70,000 years old.

In 1905 the textbooks say the earth is 2,000,000,000 years old.

In 1969 the textbooks say the earth is 3,500,000,000 years old.

In 2008 the textbooks say the earth is 4,600,000,000 years old.

Did you know that the earth is getting older at the rate of 21,000,000 years per year for the last 220 years? That's 40 years a minute. If the very idea isn't enough to make you laugh, then your sense of humor may be in need of repair! Of course, not literally aging that fast but this is what they think according to their own estimates. The story below explains just why such an increase in estimations of age would be needed in the belief system of evolution, as discoveries with the increasing complexity of molecular life are examined:

If a preschooler named Matthew came home from his class and shared a story about a frog, which was turned into a prince by a wizard, his parents would know he had heard a fairy tale. However, if Matthew's older brother Taylor, came home from college class and told a story of how a frog evolved into a prince - without any wizard, but with blind

unintelligent forces - is such an assertion believable? The only difference is time. Matthew's frog turned into a prince instantly. Taylor's frog took longer - some several hundred million years - but turned into a man. Yet we are told that this is science. Somehow it seems that by adding a few billion years to the equation, one can produce scientific miracles.

Frog + Prince = Fairy Tale

Frog + Prince + Time = Science

So since the equation is obviously time added to the picture lets just examine why Math tells us "Yes!" to God and "NO!" to evolution. Numbers speak louder than words..

...-::[[]] Mathematically Questioned -. ^ .-

Reply Equals "Yes!" [[]]: :- -

If God was not the cause of the origin of the universe, then what other possibility is there? Was it simply "nothing"? The most common evolutionist answer to the question is that chance fulfills the role. As the biochemist Jacques Monod wrote in his book "Chance and Necessity," "[Man] is alone in the universe's unfeeling immensity, out of which he emerged by chance... Chance alone is at the source of every innovation, of all creation in the biosphere. Pure chance, absolutely free but blind, [is] at the very root of the stupendous edifice of evolution."(2)

This explanation has been known to slide right through many human minds rather unproblematically. However, a single moment's reflection will unveil that chance simply can not be the cause of anything, while in this case it is being claimed as the cause of everything. In order for something to be an actual cause, it must be some sort of force, and chance is not a force; it can not be held responsible for anything. Chance is merely a term used in calculating probabilities mathematically. For instance, when you flip a coin through the air, there is a 50-50 "chance" that it will land heads-side-up. This quotient of mathematical probability does not suggest that chance is a force that actually flips the coin and makes it fall. An example of an existing determining force in that case would be gravity, which allows the coin to come down after tossed in the air. Chance is simply not a cause of any kind. Chance is, in effect, nothing. Therefore, when somebody says chance

created the universe, they're really saying that nothing created everything by no means at all.

Nevertheless, evolutionists still decide to use this perversion of chance's definitive meaning as the foundation for the concept behind their entire theory. They claim that given "enough time" and "enough random events," virtually anything is possible; that the evolution of every single elaborately detailed ecosystem and organism in the universe is solely the inadvertent production of an extremely massive amount of random yet extraordinarily lucky chain of accidents. And in declaring so, they elevate chance itself to the role of the: Creator.

However, let's pretend for a minute that nothing can create everything, and assume the age of the universe as being as old as 30 billion years, then here are the steps to calculating the probability that the simplest form of life could have evolved by "chance"...

Following mathematician Marcel E. Golay's model, as described by Henry Morris' "What is Creation Science?":

- [1]] Assume the known universe is 5 billion (5×10^9) light years in radius.
- [2]] Assume the known universe is crammed with tiny particles the size of an electron, the smallest known particle in existence. It is estimated that 10^{80} particles exist presently in the universe, but if there were no empty space, 10^{130} particles conceivably could exist there... every structure, process, system, "event", in the universe must consist of these particles in various combinations and interchanges.
- [3]] Assume each particle can take part in 10^{20} (one hundred billion billion) events each second, and allow 10^{20} seconds of cosmic history (3,000 billion years, 100 times the current maximum estimate of the age of the universe), then the greatest conceivable number of

separate events that could ever take place in all of space and time would be:

$$\mathbf{10^{130} \times 10^{20} \times 10^{20} = 10^{170} \text{ events}}$$

In order for life to appear, one of these events (or some combination of them) must bring a number of these particles together in a system containing enough order (or stored information) to enable it to make a copy of itself. This system, even the most simplest imaginable replicating system, would have to contain far more stored information than represented even by such a big number as 10^{170} . In 1961, Marcel E. Golay calculated the odds against such a system organizing itself randomly as 10^{450} to 1. This is so even if it is spread out over a span of time and a series of connected events. Actually, this figure was calculated on the assumption that it was accomplished by a series of 1,500 successive events, each with the generously high probability of $1/2$ ($2^{1500} = 10^{450}$). The probability would've been much lower if accomplished in a single chance event. It is very generous to conclude the probability of the simplest conceivable replicating system arising by chance just once in all the universe in all time as:

$$\mathbf{10^{170} / 10^{450} = 1 / 10^{280}}$$

When the probability of occurrence of any event is smaller than one out of the number of events that could ever possibly occur- that is less than $1/10^{170}$ - then the probability of its occurrence is considered by mathematicians to be 0. Consequently, it is concluded that the chance origin of life is absolutely impossible. Life can only be explained by creation.

There you have it- the chance origin of life is, as mathematically calculated - ***impossible***.

Compare this probability model with what other experts have to say: Someone once estimated that the number of random genetic factors involved in the evolution of a tapeworm from an amoeba would be comparable to placing a monkey in a room with a typewriter and allowing him to strike the keys at random until he accidentally produced a perfectly spelled and perfectly punctuated transcript of Hamlet's soliloquy. And the odds of getting all the mutations necessary to evolve a starfish from a one-celled creature are comparable to asking a hundred blind people to make ten random moves each with five Rubik's Cubes, and finding all five cubes perfectly solved at the end of the process. The odds against all earth's life forms evolving from a single cell are, in a word, impossible.

“One only has to contemplate the magnitude of this task to concede that the spontaneous generation of a living organism is impossible...Yet here we are- as a result, I believe, of spontaneous generation.”

- Carl Sagan

One of the best known evolutionists, Julian Huxley, surmised that the probability of natural selection leading to higher forms to be one chance in a number so large, it would occupy 1,500 pages of print. Yet he made the following statement which shows the amazing depth of his blind faith: "No one would bet on anything so improbable happening ... and yet it happened." The whole controversy boils down to whether one wants to place his faith in a religion that preaches accidental miracles or one that teaches created miracles.

Furthermore, math tells us so much more about the world, it tells us in relation to what we know, that what some people are "supposing" is not only wrong but doesn't even make sense when thrown into the arithmetic of life. If in fact the age of the earth was 4.6 billion years old these figures would be much different according to the age of the earth because the deposits these elements (including laws) leave over an accumulation of time adds up, but not to 4.6 billion years, No - not even close.

Process Indicated Age of Earth

Decay of earth's magnetic field 10,000 years
Influx of radiocarbon to the earth system 10,000 years
Influx of meteoric dust from space too small to calculate
Influx of juvenile water to oceans 340,000,000 years
Influx, magma from mantle to form crust 500,000,000 years
Growth of oldest living part of biosphere 5,000 years
Origin of human civilizations 5,000 years
Efflux of Helium-4 into the atmosphere 1,750 - 175,000 yrs
Influx of nickel to the ocean via rivers 9,600 years
Development of total human population 4,000 years
Influx of sediment to the ocean via rivers 30,000,000 years
Leaching of chlorine from continents 1,000,000 years
Influx of small particles to the sun 83,000 years
Formation of river deltas 5,000 years
Submarine oil seepage into oceans 50,000,000 years
Uranium decay w/initial "radiogenic" lead too small to measure
Influx of chromium into ocean via rivers 350 years
Decay of potassium with entrapped argon too small to measure
Influx of chromium into ocean via rivers 160 years
Influx of aluminum to the ocean via rivers 100 years
Decay of natural remanent paleomagnetism 100,000 years
Influx of lead to the ocean via rivers 2,000 years

(These calculations are among MILLIONS of others that prove the Earth is not nearly as old as they would like us to believe. Adopt their religion and consequently deny the facts the world has to offer as to it's actual age. Would you rather believe a carefully constructed lie or a fairy tale? The logical side of the mind chooses always to believe in neither.)

If the earth was 4.6 billion years old then there would be no magnetic field at all (life could not sustain because there would be no atmosphere). If the earth were that old the rivers would be enlarged to such an extreme point that land would literally "disappear under the waters." We would find massive amounts of oil in the oceans, but yet we don't find the appropriate amount of oil considering the alledged age. In order for there to be the amount of "aluminum" that is in the oceans now, only 100 years of accumulation is required. Every amount of elements, geological formations, and laws of nature do not exhibit the required numbers to conclude that the earth is 4.6 billion years old. They don't indicate that at all. The Scriptures tell us that it was made "with the appearance of age..", it's a humble opinion to assume that the Scripture's say that because it was made, with the appearance of age.

Although evolutionists can be found believing in their "religion" on nearly every continent they still proliferate much of society into the dark ages of Myths and pleasant Fantasys. Most people that believe in evolution fail to realize that the validity of the evolution system of belief is merely pure religion. Since defensive ardohr can always be found in statements made by evolutionists defending what they believe. Nothing that evolutionists offer can be established as imperical. The further that one investigates into the evolutionary mentality established by the disease of atheism: to conquer all mankind into submission that the

government is god and that everyone is an animal in need of governing - the more outrageous and politically predictable the theory becomes. You see, numbers disprove evolution through probability based on various fields of investigation that have been clearly stated above. The benefit that evolution proposes as a belief system rather than the pre-established theological stanzas of thought in pre-Nazi Germany were evident to Adolf Hitler. Making evolution the main religion of Germany was only the first step into complete government control of all citizens and personal thought shifts from humanitarian thinking to nationalistic thinking. Take this demonstration for example of how evolution can evidently be categorized as a religion rather than a science which it's cover is only cleverly disguised as, in order for the alleged victim (you, me, and everyone) to believe.

Here is what happens when questioning an evolutionist:

"This is not fair, your insisting that we take Genesis literally, that God actually took six days, that evolution is not true and that there really was a worldwide flood. You are being intolerant of other people's views. You must show tolerance for people such as I who believe God used evolution and that Genesis is only symbolic." I then asked, "Well, what do you want me to do?" The person replied, "You must allow other views and be tolerant of opinions different to yours." "Well." I said, "My view is that the literal interpretation of Genesis is the right view. All other views concerning Genesis are wrong. Will you tolerate my view?" The person looked shocked, and he hesitated. I could almost hear him thinking. "If I say 'yes,' then I've allowed him to say you can have another view such as mine; if I say 'no,' then I've obviously been intolerant of his view - what do I do?" He then looked at me and said, "That's semantics!"

What he really meant was that he had lost the argument and did not want to admit his intolerance of my position. The fact is, he had taken a dogmatic closed minded position because of his bias. Is it not apparent that the position formulated by such believers in evolution is a religion? Yet again the definition of words win this battle in favor of all you have read - who can deny a word its meaning?

If believing that "science" is your God (and in such, that everything coming out of the mouths of "scientists" is true, then guess who your preacher is) makes you sleep good at night, then you don't know the definition of science, and most desperately require the purchase of a dictionary. It most certainly has nothing to do with evolution, science of course - never has and never will according to the guidelines set down by the philosophers of long ago that remain still in practice today by the few who manage to escape the religious position of evolution. If you would like to undo, what the government has done to you; stop believing that you are an animal, curse evolution and proclaim to those in power - "I will not be made a fool, I am no animal! My rights are just as important as all others!" For your own sake, if believing in evolution appears as "pure science" rather than "religion" then investigate everything you have just read, put this information to the test.

Furthermore, research the history behind this religion - what good has it ever done for the world (us)? Since some of the most well known evolutionists like Pauli Pot, Joseph Stalin, Karl Marx, and Adolf Hitler echo through the evolution hall of fame - is the answer not obvious? Just as the governments (every European power, Chinese, Japanese, American, German, etc.) promoted evolution into the beliefs of their citizens had once done, and still to this day practice the belief system of absolute citizen control. One of the phrases

that Hitler became famous for in Mein Kampf, was when he said "Give me control over the textbooks and I will mold the minds of the nation!" This is just what evolution in government educational methods has been doing, originally stating in the text books "The Evolution Theory", and then later after no evidence mounted, suddenly switched the title to "The Evolutionary Fact" even though nothing had changed. The reasoning behind this is - if you have no superior to look to before the government (i.e. God), then the government will be your god and if you believe you are an animal as evolution proposes then controlling you will be far easier than it would be otherwise. See how powerful a tool evolution can politically become, and yet go unrealized without proper contemplation? Are you starting to see the sinister political maneuvering to ultimate power made by psychological reinforcement of the evolutionary religion onto society? Terrifying but true...oh but yes it is.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

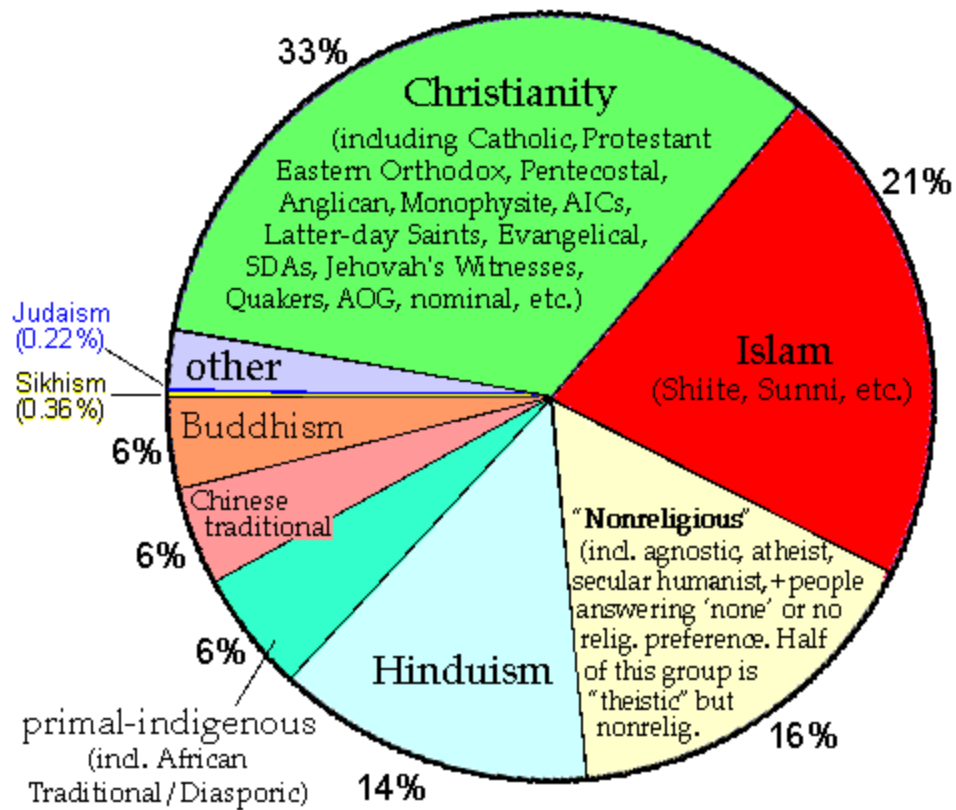
To put it plainly; evolution is a religion cleverly disguise as "science." No evolutionist is a scientist. If those who rely on so called "practicing science" really wanted to be true scientists they would not believe in evolution. Science pertains to facts, not unprovable things, but rather what we can study and without a doubt certify the immutable nature of a discovery. Modern day myth is just what evolution is, and subsequently exactly what society doesn't need and never has. Yet, as the ancient Romans adored their fables and myths as does modern culture reflect the same myth loving nature when it comes to the evolutionary religion. Considering how great of an ordeal endeavoring upon the search for the "right"/"true" God is, those who fall from the search along the way are prone to picking up this explanation (religion) to confer apparitions of comfort,

related with such severity belated by the suspense of not knowing (....). Evolution started out as an idea, then a book, and now is the most powerful religion on earth. By no means is it science, for further investigations into the lies in the text books please see Door 41 for a list of outstanding sources related to this study.

Since others say,

"God made it all"

- just *who is* this God?



Onward into the land of confusion . . .

-]] the door has been opened [[-

_... -::[}]> Baha'i <{]::- -

))Visualize World Peace((

Youngest of all independent world religions while beginning even smaller in Persia (currently Iran) eventually establishing organized philosophies and rituals 200 years ago. Drawing in its membership (which some claim to be attributed to secret societies throughout the world), from every religion, race, ethnic background, nationality and creed in the world. Baha'i spread fast due to the "lack" of its absolute moral structure system of laws making it an easy religion to adopt - unity of ideas and people is top priority in this belief. Basically whatever you think is right, is - but there are some exceptions if you really want to believe Baha'i.

The main teaching of this religion is unity - one religion and one humanity. They also believe that god is beyond our ability to understand. There are two sides to religion-spiritual and social. The basic spiritual teachings - love your neighbor - are found in all religions they say. The social side, how the spiritual is acted out changes according to the time period you live in. They think: that there should be a one world government, with no prejudice, that women are equal, the extremes from poverty to wealth should be eliminated, everyone should be educated, religion is in harmony with logic and science, world peace is possible and so is one international language. Whatever feels good, do it: drink, smoke, do drugs as long as you like it, the Baha'i advocates this to open up the mind.

This is the only religion that is accepted by the United Nations. After you die your soul continues to get closer to god. Heaven and hell aren't actual places-they're spiritual

"conditions". Heaven is close to god, and hell is far away from god. You can experience heaven and hell while you are still alive. They don't have any official priests of clergy but they have ceremonies for when you get married or die. Worship services are conducted in temples but they're are no weekly services. Groups get together every nineteen days for devotions, counseling and fellowship. They fast from March 2nd to the 20th every year. And they are supposed to make at least one trip to the holy land to see Baha' u' 'Ilah's grave. The largest concentration of believers are in India with over five million worldwide and 130,000 in the USA.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

Ultimately they believe that every religion is right as long as the religion has one god and that they are all talking about the same God (even though by definition they can't be!). If all the gods from these different religions are the same god, then why are the messages from all these prophets (supposedly of the same god), contradictory? How do you explain it? You can't.

_.. -:[} > Buddhism <{::- -

))No Me, No Divinity((

The world evolved, there is no god. The overall concept is to be loving to all creatures - man and animal. Don't give in to worldly entertainment - like movies and TV. Don't wear jewelry or dye your hair. You can't worship idols, don't pray to Buddha because he no longer exists (even though some still do). Tithing to the monks is a command that the Buddha gave to all who would follow him. They believe that all life is about suffering. Birth hurts, death hurts. Getting sick or old - it all hurts. Not getting what you want, really hurts according to the path to enlightenment. Wanting to be successful and happy in this life and in your future causes pain. The ending of suffering however, they perceive to be possible: just give up your passions, and your cravings so then you have no desires at all to be let down from giving you no possible reason to suffer. Expecting nothing equals nothing to suffer from. Following the eight-fold path will end all the pain.

> > : . _The Eight-Fold Path:

- 1> Right understanding of reality, opening your mind.
- 2> Right thought. Renounce all your desires; you can't hate anyone or anything.
- 3> Right speech. Don't lie; indulge in idle chatter, no gossip.
- 4> Right actions. No killing anything (be a vegetarian), stealing, gambling, drunkenness, sexual acts, and to only take what is given to you.
- 5> Right occupation. Get a job that won't harm anyone.

- 6> Right effort. Be perfect, do all you can to ensure that you have no bad habits.
- 7> Right meditation. Be observant, alert, and free from desires and sadness.
- 8> Right concentration. After you've done all that, you have to enter into the four degrees of meditation by concentrating.

There are four types of Buddhists: Theravada, the original Buddhism - Mahayana, popular outside India mainly in China and Japan - Zen, a branch of Buddhism that is big in the U.S. Zen means "meditation" in Japanese - Tibetan just simply follow their leader the Dalai Lama. The afterlife in all of these sects is consistent to either reincarnation or nirvana (eternal state of bliss). The text that Buddhist's adhere to are the "Sutras" by which all of the information is transmitted from mind to mind (telepathy) and don't need words to be explained. Zen teachers say, "Look within, you are the Buddha." Disciples have to find their way through self-effort. The main geographic center is India with over 300 million followers world wide and 401,000 in the U.S.

The appeal of Buddha's death is interesting enough to be mentioned: he was given food that was old enough to be poisonous, knowing that the food was deadly due to his ultimate enlightenment, Buddha ate it - not wanting to refuse what was given to him - and in this, killed himself. Interesting because he had become so enlightened that he didn't realize that if he wouldn't have ate the poisonous food that he more than likely would have been able to help other people in the world that he had found to be in a state of "constant suffering." Maybe he could have helped a sick person get better, a confused person understand, save a child from a house fire, or feed the starving masses. Etc. The Buddha's death is one of the most erroneous deaths recorded in history, if not the most ridiculous suicide.

Buddha gave the proclamation to the world of his great wisdom and then he turns around and eats food that he knew was poisonous? What a foolish wise man.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

Since Buddhists think there's no god, who brings them back after they're dead? For more in-depth information as to why this belief system is unreasonable see the Tough Questions in door 40 with the title "What is reincarnation?"

_ . - [} > Confucianism < {] :- -

))Respect Your Elders((

The year is 550 B.C. China is at war. The violence is terrible. Some battles have up to 400,000 victims. They killed everybody - men, women, children and old people. They did horrible things to the victims like making them into soup and forcing their relatives to eat it. Nasty, really nasty. A man named K'ung Fu Tzu - we pronounce his name Confucius in English - lived at the time (along with Socrates, Buddha, and Plato). He hated all this violence and started to speak out about it. He'd go around arguing for human rights, saying all the bloodshed should end. Everyone thought he was brilliant and became world famous for his wisdom. His report card would have read, "Works well with others".

The funny thing about Confucius is that he never intended to start a new religion. He just wanted to make the world a better place. Confucianism has no God. Confucius believed that there wasn't one, even though in the 1900s he was deified. The basic beliefs are: Be polite, love your family, be righteous, be honest, be kind toward others, and be loyal to the state. It's all about "life on earth". Confucius believed in heaven but it's not an important part of the religion. Heaven is real but the focus of the religion is earthly. Your ancestors in this religion are constantly around you and can assist you with anything that you need help from. Don't be surprised if you're in the kitchen and you have something in the oven burning only to be taken out by your long lost great grandma's spirit.

The books that followers read are The Wu Jing or The Five Classics, which is made up of five books of ancient teaching. The Analects, which might be called the Confucian bible because it has a collection of sayings by Confucius. Here's a quote: "Hold fast to what is good and the people will be good. The virtue of the good man is as the wind: and that of the bad man, as the grass. When the wind blows, the grass must bend." They worship at temples and at family shrines built to Confucius. The main geographic center is China with 6 million followers worldwide and 26,000 in the U.S.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

They believe in the yin and yang, so they believe that all the good will be balanced with evil. The goal of this religion is for all people to become supremely good, but the system they've set up means that this will never happen. The better things get, the more evil will have to come into the world to counteract it. It just doesn't work.

_ . - [} > Hare Krishna < {]
:- -

))Chanting God's Name((

It became popular in about the sixth century, but still isn't popular today, only about one million people worldwide actually believe this. They have what is called a Triumurti: This literally means "Three Deities", the main ones are Brahma-the creator, Shiva-the destroyer, and Vishnu-god himself. Keeping true to reincarnation they believe that you go round and round through the cycle of life over and over many times until you're good enough to go and live forever in heaven with Krishna (the all attractive one). The concept of Karma was established by these guys. In this belief system nothing happens by chance, everything that happens is a direct action of a higher authority.

> > : . _Krishna followers stick to these nine devotionals:

- 1> Hearing about god.
- 2> Chanting god's name.
- 3> Reading about god and hanging out with others who believe in him.
- 4> Serving Krishna.
- 5> Worshipping god by preparing food and bringing others to see him.
- 6> Praying.
- 7> Encouraging others to chant god's name.
- 8> Developing a close relationship with god.
- 9> Giving everything to god.

Krishna - is the guy in charge of it all. He's the head god, but there are thousands of other demigods that have different responsibilities. Currently the ISKON are the figureheads for the followers of this religion. Although there are multiple gods, the followers refer to their set of beliefs as monotheistic with heavy emphasis on pseudo-polytheism. They only read "The Bhagavad Gita". Members are required to chant not only sixteen times each day at set times but they are also required to listen to preaching at their worship services too. You gain closeness with Krishna by chanting his name. They say it repeatedly varying the order of different words as they feel appropriate, while in all this bringing peace and tranquility and power here to earth. When a devoted member is accepted by a fellow believer that person is given a new name and a new identity. The religion revolves around chanting: Krishna, Krishna, Krishna.. Well, you get the point. With the main geographic location being India and with over 300 million followers world-wide.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

Although Hare Krishna followers seek to uphold good moral principles (the Four Pillars), their works will not bring them eternal life. Christians, too, have the Ten Commandments to follow, but their salvation is not dependent upon their obedience to them. If that were so, we would have no hope. Instead, the Christians believe and trust God has already accomplished salvation on the Cross. Krishna followers are sent to heaven based on what they do, or so they think at least.

_ . - [} > Hinduism < {] :- -

))Holy Cow!((

4,000 years old, it began in the Indus Valley civilization. These people sang while they traveled, the songs were called Vedas. This is where the Hindu literature comes from. More literature came out when people started talking about god and the relationship with mankind. They eventually decided that man is born, dies, and is reborn, just like the seasons on earth. Yet another reincarnation believing system of religion. The way you get free from this never-ending cycle is to get rid of all your desire or to become fully aware of your self. Hinduism is really varied religion though.

Hinduism does not distinguish ideas of God as true and false, adopting one particular idea as the standard for the whole human race. There's no one set code of morals, no main organization, and not even one clear opinion about god. Its history isn't real clear. For this Hindu's believe in one god - Brahman but they believe that there are lots of other gods that are a part of Brahman. Brahman determines how one is reincarnated based on their actions on earth. That's called karma. Most Hindus are vegetarians considering that they hold cows to be sacred. If you achieve enlightenment while your here on earth you go to nirvana when you die.

To become enlightened they say: "a combination of meditation and exercise" are required. On the other hand Hindus are tolerant of other religious beliefs; as a matter of fact most Hindus accept any view of god, considering that their views on their own gods are very unclear. They believe that no one religion (including Hinduism) teaches the only way to salvation. All souls will eventually be saved because

everyone is moving closer to union with god in this or some other life.

> > : . _Three ways to be Saved from Death:

- 1> You have to follow all the religious rites without messing up.
- 2> You gain knowledge until you come to a state of mind where karma has no effect.
- 3> You become extremely devoted to the gods, your family, and your boss in your public and private life.

You can "choose-your-own-adventure" through this religion. Mahatma Ghandi was the main figurehead to the Hindus. The main texts that they read are the Vedas, Upanishads, and the Bhagavad Gita. They worship in a temple offering prayers, rituals, should be made three times a day - either at home or at the temple. They also have other yearly festivals and the optional pilgrimage. India makes more movies than any other country in the world because of its many cinematic tributes to gods and goddesses. Although while killing an elephant is the equivalent in federal punishment to murdering seven men - the culture continues to thrive even though they think animals are more important than people. The main location in the world to find Hindus is India where there are 860 million worldwide while one million reside in the U.S.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

If we can work our way to god on our own - through works, knowledge, and devotion - then why do we need god in the first place? And if you believe in reincarnation, how do you explain significant growths in population? If new babies

being born are using the souls of people who die, is no one making it to nirvana? Are more souls just being created? The birth rate so exceeded the death rate after World War I and various other wars to conclude that reincarnation just doesn't match up with the math. See "What is Reincarnation?" in door 40 for the exact reasons as to why reincarnation is entirely absurd and highly illogical.

_ . - [} > Islam < {] :- -

))The Moon God of Mecca: Allah((

It all started around 600 A.D. with Muhammad who was married to a wealthy woman named Khadija while he was employed as a trade caravan when he was about twenty-five. They lived together for ten years and then he started going out to a cave for some alone time. He was really bummed out by how the people were worshiping all kinds of idols. Muhammad was all about uniting the Arabs into one religion. One time when he was in this cave, he claimed that an angel (Gabriel) brought him some revelations from god. The angel told him god wanted him to be a prophet. This totally freaked Muhammad out, he didn't write down any of what Gabriel had said because he was illiterate, but he somehow managed to memorize it all.

When he went home and told Khadija, she believed him and encouraged him to pursue it. Now, he got a lot of grief about everything he had experienced from the people in town - most of the bigwigs were really threatened by it all. So Muhammad and his followers pretty much, had to move out. They went to a city called Medina, this is a huge event in Muslim history. It's the year that Muhammad declared himself a prophet of Allah (god) incidentally making this declaration into the year the Muslim calendar starts. After a few years of raising a fanatical army, Muhammad and his followers went back to Mecca and conquered it - from then on Islam spread like wildfire. After this had happened Muhammad had some more visions and due to his lack of ability to write them down, others did. He did not appoint a successor to follow him - this has caused a lot of arguments among his followers and has caused Islam to break into two

divisions. Muhammad claimed to be god's last messenger on earth.

> > : . _The Five Pillars of Islam:

- 1> There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah.
- 2> Pray five times a day facing Mecca.
- 3> Give charity (2.5% of your money) to the poor.
- 3> Fast from dawn to sunset during the month of Ramadan.
- 4> If you're financially able, go on a pilgrimage to visit Mecca.

> > : . _The Six Pillars of Faith:

- 1> Believe in one god, Allah.
- 2> Believe in angels of god.
- 3> Believe in the books of god.
- 4> Believe in the messengers of god.
- 5> Believe in the day of judgment.
- 6> Believe in fate - Allah has already decided what you will get.

Islam incorporates pre-destination. If you were born, and two days later, when you were only two days old; had you died the possibility of you going to hell/heaven is equal considering you couldn't have done anything worthy of hell, you could still go there (because you exist for no other purpose but what you are destined for). Women have no rights in an Islamic nation. The goal of the religion is to unite the world by force to worship Allah by way of the army of Allah - the Taliban by which the credo is "convert or die". That is to say when Islam means "submit to Allah's will", the

Taliban enforces this to the fullness of all of the Quran. They interpret everything literally and read it no other way - that's who they are.

Black Islam, another sect, says that black people were created first, and that in an experiment 6,000 years ago a black scientist accidentally created white people. Think about the technology that would be subsequently involved with that; and how most of Africa is still in the stone age. W.D. Fard Muhammad founded it and taught that white people oppressed black people and focused on the idea of rejecting Christianity because the main religion of those white people was Christianity. Malcom X would later be known as a spokesperson for Black Islam in his promotion of "black power" and it did give the people who had been oppressed power, or so they thought for the time being. The goal of it was to achieve true freedom and equality for African Americans.

The main beliefs only differ in a few ways: black people will be judged first, whites and blacks should be separated (which isn't true equality, is it?), they shouldn't fight in wars where they have to kill people. Elijah Muhammad (another prophet) said "The whites would rule the earth for 6,000 years and then would be destroyed by the blacks. On judgment day, all the gods (all black of course) will destroy the white race (devils) and establish paradise on earth." What's it going to be called? The Nation of Islam. It's just another theology based on hate, which is sad - so, if you're white, the possibility of you going to heaven is not only hard, it's impossible in this religion.

There are approximately 1.3 billion Islamic people living in over fifty-seven different nations, of which twenty-two are Arab nations (about 300 million people). The Islamic religion is a rapidly growing belief system, due to the militants that only wish to impose their Islamic traditions on the rest of the world (For example: Osama Bin Laden).

> > : . _Their Three Main Goals:

- 1> Drive all westerners out of the Middle East.
- 2> Exterminate all Christians and Jews.
- 3> Establish a one-world Islamic government and religion.

Militants believe all Muslims are soldiers in Allah's army who must fight, or, if they don't fight, they must give financial support to those who do.

> > : . _They Believe:

- - All non-Muslims are their enemy.
- - All non-Muslims must be forced to submit to Islam.
- - All territory that has ever been under Islamic rule must be brought back under Islamic rule forever (If one owned property and was Islamic, the property will always stay Islamic)
- - When Muslims become the majority in any country they must control the government.
- - The Jews are only temporary residents of Jerusalem and Israel.
- - Muslims can sign a temporary peace treaty and break, if doing so advances the cause of Islam.
- - All concession by non-Muslims are signs of weakness and an indication that Muslims are winning the Jihad.
- - Muslims are engaged in holy war (Jihad) until Judgment day.

Muslims believe Christians and Jews have distorted the Scriptures, (they believe the Bible is full of errors), but Allah's messenger, Muhammad, corrected the distortions

and gave Islam the Quran. Muhammad's teachings supersede those of Jesus and all others. They believe Islam is the only true religion and is destined to replace all other religions. Muslims must do more good works than bad or die a martyr to be saved (in effect, salvation by works), and all Jews and Christians are cursed. The more radical members don't believe in a civil society. They quickly deny basic freedoms such as human rights, civil-rights, and womens-rights, and they readily justify the killing of innocent men, women, and children to promote their cause.

Although held to be a popular opinion: Some say that Islam and Christianity are "sister faiths" but that's simply not the case. If popular opinion were that people should at least be required to know about what they're talking about, then opinions like this one wouldn't exist. They differ in hundreds if not thousands of ways; I unfortunately only know of the ones I know about, I don't know about the ones I don't know. A wise man once said: "In all the things that you learn, teach yourself to say 'I don't know'." Samuel Johnson may possibly be one of the greatest advocates for denouncing mindless opinions based on a lack of knowledge.

> > : . _Muslim Beliefs shown in contrast with Judeao-Christianity:

- - Muslims worship the Moon God of Mecca called Allah
Christians worship the Everlasting Eternal Creator of the Universe called God.
- - Muslims say Allah is not love, but Christians say Jehovah is love.
- - Muslims say Allah is not a father, but Christians call Jehovah Father.
- - Muslims say Allah cannot be known in a personal way, but Christians say Jehovah can be known personally.

- - Muslims say that Allah made a covenant with Abraham to give the Promised Land to Ishmael's descendants, but Christians and Jews say Jehovah made a covenant with Abraham to give the Promised Land to Isaac and his descendants.
- - Muslims say Jesus was created from dust like Adam, but Christians say that Jesus was born of a virgin.
- - Muslims say that Jesus was a messenger of God; Christians say Jesus is the Son of God.
- - Muslims say Judas Iscariot died on the cross, but the Christians say that Jesus died on the cross.
- - Muslims say their sins can be forgiven, but they have to kill an infidel (non-Muslim) to obtain forgiveness.
- - Muslims believe in a Messiah called the Mahdi, but Christians say the Messiah is Jesus.
- - Muslims say the Messiah will be a descendant of Muhammad, but Christians and Jews say the Messiah will be a descendant of King David (Jesus was in the line of King David).
- - Muslims say the Messiah will reign on earth for seven years and die, but Christians say he will reign on earth for 1000 years and never die.
- - Muslims say the Messiah will conquer Israel, the Christians and Jews say the Messiah will rescue Israel.
- - Muslims believe in the Great War at the end of the age called the "mother of all battles" but Christians call it the "battle of Armageddon" and Jews call it "the battle of all battles."

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

Allah is a harsh god, a god of perpetual judgment. His devotees cannot personally know him. Where, then lies the incentive for following him? The God of Christianity invites

those who believe in him to be loved by him and to know him personally, so Allah - obviously is not the same God as they claim. The Taliban: For one, their practice doesn't match up with their scriptures - there's a total gap in their logic there. For example, take a look at these guys who hijacked the planes in America because of their "holy war in the name of Allah" - they were in strip bars the night before. That's totally against their religion. It's politics, it's hate, and it's wrong as common sense tells us. Black Islam is yet another religion rooted in the bitterness and hatred of another race - how can hatred ever be justified as the "right way" to live? Because these Muslims pick which parts of the Bible they will believe, they conveniently choose to ignore the part about loving your enemy (see Luke 6:27-31). The Bible is God's spoken Word - either it's true or it's not. If they're going to claim any of it, then they need to claim all of it. A more conclusive examination of the Quran can be found inside door 38 with the title: "Is the Quran the word of God?" Lastly, the most controversial truth that involves Islam is this: If someone killed Allah or if Allah died (due to his fluxuating power) none of his followers would even know because Allah cannot be personally known (ask any Muslim). Not to mention that in the Quran it states Allah changes his ways freely and in this making one thing right for a moment and wrong the next only to find out in the book of the Cow that Allah doesn't do this (is there a contradiction there?). Would you worship a Liar?

_ .. -::[] } > Jainism < {} :- -

))Live and Let Live((

It all started with twenty-four Tirthankara - the guys who started the religion. Lord Mahavira was the last and incidentally the one who made the religion what it is today. He was born some 2,600 years ago, he literally set out to create the belief system. In India they attribute the invention of things like marriage, family, law, states, arts and crafts, math, cooking, towns - basically everything that runs a society to him. He looked around at the culture (India) he was living in and realized that they needed to expand their "code of conduct". He did this by implementing what would later be known as the "Forty-Five Agmas" the text concerning their beliefs. Although many believers in the religion in its beginning, fell away from its teachings until a prince came along. Mahavira would be the one to proclaim a way of enlightenment through Jainism. At first he had no interest in his kingdom, much less running it - he didn't have a materialistic life because he wanted nothing.

His parents died when he was thirty and he became a monk. He strangely enough managed to spend twelve years in a state of constant meditation. (That's the time that it takes you to go from first grade to the twelfth grade!) During this period of time people gave him a really hard time, some even physically harmed him. He just managed to "overcome his bad karma" and come into a state of perfect perception of things, infinite perfect knowledge, infinite perfect power and infinite bliss. He then became known as the Keval-Gyan and then started preaching, which lasted for thirty years. He started an organization where monks, nuns, male lay

followers and female lay followers. Those four groups are referred to as the Sangh. They are still structured in this way in the present day. When he died he was seventy-two and fasted himself to death. He got to Nirvana (without being reborn again) and became a Siddha (liberated soul).

They believe that no god exists and that the universe is eternal and was never created, although through a process one can "become god." You are saved from death only if you deny yourself pleasures. Followers practice non-violence, believing that life involves constant misery, we are hopeless in this world. The body is dirty and the home of disease. They don't have sex (women are the cause of different types of evil), nor do they kill, steal, lie, or be materialistic, they blame women for these things and suppress their rights in their communities. Although they don't have sex, (at all), it seems strange to consider how if everyone believed this philosophy mankind would be extinct. We are alone and don't belong to anyone other than ourselves, and after death we are reincarnated for this reason you can't kill anything. And by that we're talking about cows, chickens, pigs, if its moving around and makes noise and poops - don't kill it. If ever a person kills something (insect, frog, fly, rat) their karma is eternally affected meaning that they cant escape the cycle of reincarnation. For more information on reincarnation see Door 38.

After adhering to these beliefs you can "shade" your karma through right faith, right knowledge, and right conduct. When that is achieved you become a Siddha. This is god. They pray to the Siddha collectively and do this on a daily basis to receive more knowledge from all of those who are in their faith. In essence they believe in the "nexus" concept, minds melding with each other and sharing the same thoughts. Worship is conducted in a Tirth while the main

geographic center is India with four million worldwide and 7,000 in North America.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

Since the only way to achieve salvation is to never kill anything (and by that overcome your karma). That is impossible. Every day we kill millions of micro-organisms. Salvation is impossible in this religion. Say for instance that before you knew of the path to enlightenment through Jainism you had just finished eating a Big Mac, how would you become god then?

Just say that maybe that wasn't the case at all, since Jain's believe in reincarnation - suppose you were reincarnated as a Lion, and were absolutely required to kill other animals in order to live, even so if the reincarnated one as a Lion did not eat, it would result in the deliberate self termination of life, thus killing one's self: so how are you getting rid of your karma then? For an in depth analysis of reincarnation (the foundation of Jainism and several other eastern religions) please see "What is reincarnation?" under Tough questions located in Door 38.

_ .. -:: [} > Mysticism < {] :- -

))Divine Connection((

Mysticism, in one form or another has influenced many of the world's philosophies and religions, including those in ancient Egypt, India, and Greece. Because it's tied to religions and histories that didn't always keep good records, a lot of the beginnings of mysticism have been lost to historians. However, in Greece a man named Plotinus lived in early 200 A.D. developed mysticism into an actual philosophy. He added the idea of "monism" - the belief that everything in the universe comes from one single source. That people could gain access to the mystical god, become one with him, and experience a unity above any unity they'd ever experienced. Mysticism is simple, its the quest for a connection to the divine. Although the "divine" (god) they're after is never clearly specified. Perhaps its this mystic idea that most are estranged to: it's having a knowledge of the divine that may or may not include meditation or contemplation. It seeks to eleviate the person and the soul so that the believer can get to know the divine and become united with that deity.

This is not an organized religion, in fact you can't join an organization at all. Becoming a mystic means that you go through mystic rituals and adopt the beliefs and practices into your life. The afterlife is not even agreed on in this religion so where death takes them, they have no idea. They believe you must give over everything to the "great spirit" (surrender), develop your mind in different ways to

understand love and god (intuitive development), take off on your journey in the quest to discover the "divine essence of being" (self-exploration), and conscious awareness of a universal force that created everything and is still around to keep it going (spiritual awakening). All major religions including Satanism and Wicca have mystic elements. The believers expand on ways to get to god, making the connection with god in various ways that some invent as they go and as they please. From walking a high-wire to walking backwards chewing gum are both "mystical" examples of how to get closer to god (absurd, yet true). While the geographic center cannot be determined to be one specific location but must be considered worldwide while it remains unknown as to how many people actually follow. Mysticism still remains a sect of every religion and merely appeals to the "mysterious" nature of natural and spiritual wonders. The geographic center for believers is worldwide with the actual figure of followers widely unknown and difficult to calculate.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

The focus of this can be the means, not the end - which is the relationship with God. And if the relationship isn't the most important part, then what's the point? Make sure your focus is God, not all the stuff you do to get to Him.

_ .. - [} > Rastafarianism < {] :- -

))Weed Worshipers((

Marcus Garvey lived in Jamaica in the 920s. He was a hugely popular preacher who taught that all Africans would come together and be a powerful group. The Africans compared Garvey to John the Baptist or Moses - leading the people out of bondage and to god. So, who is god? The Emperor of Ethiopia: Haile Selassie. They called him "Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah." They believed that when he became emperor in 1930, that he had fulfilled a prophecy. See, Garvey had predicted that a mighty king would bring justice to the oppressed in Africa. Ethiopia is seen as the Promised Land. They believe that all blacks will reunite there. Selassie even reserved a few hundred acres of land for it. He ruled until 1974 then died mysteriously. When he was king he used the name "Tafari." The Ethiopian word for prince is Ras. So you get "Ras-tafari-an-ism".

Early in the organization of Rastafarianism, Leonard Howell (one of the leaders) gave it six principles that are considered the main doctrine:

- 1> Hatred for the white race.
- 2> The superiority of the black race.
- 3> Revenge on whites for their wickedness.
- 4> The negotiation, persecution, and humiliation of the government of Jamaica.
- 5> Preparation to go back to Africa.

- 6> Acknowledging Emperor Haile Selassie as the Supreme Being and the only ruler of the black people.

> > : .. **_They Believe:**

- - Haile Selassie is the Jesus that the Bible predicts.
- - True Rastafarinians are immortal.
- - Dreadlocks make them look more like Selassie and less like the evil white man.
- - They're mainly vegetarians. They definitely don't eat pigs or shellfish.
- - They don't season their food.
- - Babylon (from the Bible) is white European, western culture.
- - Women are subordinate to men.
- - Smoking marijuana is a holy sacrament. Marijuana is the key to understanding yourself, the universe, and god.
- - Rastas are the supreme race. They're the reincarnation of the ancient tribes of Israel.
- - Reggae is the music of their religion.

The main goal is to "Overthrow the anti-black government." Solidarity, especially if you're Jamaican. This religion offers more than just a set of beliefs; it offers unity with fellow struggler's against the white government. Unfortunately those who would like to become a Rasta, the process is tough, it starts at birth. To become a true Rastafarian and adopt the Rastafarian beliefs, you've got to be born black and preferably in Jamaica. If you're white, you've no chance at all. None, zilch, nadda. Despite the numerous white potheads running around calling themselves "Rastas," all because they smoke weed and need an excuse to continue doing so. This religion is only for black people. There is

simply no possibility of true conversion to this religion if the hopeful convert is white, asian, mexican, or anything else other than black.

They call "god" Haile Selassie, they also refer to him as "Jah" even though Selassie was not a Rastafarian but was a devout Christian and believed that the claims that he was god were ridiculous. They do not worship in buildings. They read only parts of the Bible and a book called the "Holy Piby" translated from "Amharic" - which talks about the destruction of the white Babylon. When they die, Africa is considered heaven, while hell is being away from Africa. True Rastas live in Africa forever, and never die. While most believers populate Jamaica with 700,000 worldwide, this will always remain a religion for the Black Man, until the white man is destroyed.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

You can't "pick and choose" what you want to believe from one source. They believe that Selassie is the Christian God because of some biblical descriptions of the Messiah. But wait, the Bible says that Jesus was the fulfillment of that Messiah. A Rasta would say. "Well, we won't believe that part." It just doesn't work that way. Not to mention the main prophecy pertaining to the Messiah, being born in Bethlehem and all - Selassie was born in Nepal. It just doesn't make sense does it.

_ .. - [} > Romani/Gypsies < {] :- -

))Wanderers((

History tells us they go back a few thousand years - originally living in India. Then about a thousand years ago, they began migrating toward Europe (this would later turn out to be a bad idea). They've got a very nomadic lifestyle - they're known for always being on the move. And Roma are similar to the Jews in that they are a race (made up of four main tribes) as well as a religion. Many Roma have embraced Christianity.

There are loads of stories about the history of the Roma. And there are all kinds of tales about their persecution throughout the years. In the fourteenth century, the Roma were used as slaves in Europe. Later, during WWII, they were enslaved in Germany by Hitler. Even now, Roma are oppressed all over the world. Because they are often stereotyped as lazy, irresponsible thieves, they are often victims of discrimination in things like education and employment, especially in Europe. (Even though most of their life styles reflect such accusations.)

They believe in a god named "Del", and an evil being called "Beng." They use lucky charms (ever wonder where that saying came from?), healing rituals and curses. They believe in bixbat, which is bad luck. A Roma gets three names. The first is the name they are given at birth. After the Roma is baptized the Roma gets a new name that other Romas call

them. Lastly a name is given the Roma to deal with non-Roma people.

When a death occurs the family prays over the body for all wrong things the person had done to be forgiven. They plug the nose with wax so evil spirits don't enter your body. After you die, you can be reincarnated as an animal or human. Now this is one of the kickers - if you were really bad, then the likelihood of becoming a "Mulo" (also known as the living dead). Death to the Roma is either the transition to being a zombie, animal, or human. They also believe in predestination, loyal to family (no matter what), romaniya - a moral code that changes throughout the four tribes.

> > : .. _They Believe:

- - Good luck charms help fight the powers of bad luck.
- - Marime is a state of impurity, and is punishable by exile.
- - Pregnant women are unclean.
- - Newborns are baptized - moms are unclean until this happens.
- - In the past years they were usually married between ages 9-14.
- - Pre-marital sex is strongly forbidden.
- - Baths are not allowed, only showers. (swimming is forbidden)

Converting to a Roma is hard, it starts at birth - you have to be born into it. The Roma are an extremely tightly knit community, group being together all the time. One of the main goals these days is to get their rights back. They feel they've been slighted by people throughout history. Gypsies love living together. They emphasize community and preservation of their culture and history. They worship in

caravans but not at a certain time that they meet to worship; it's just part of their lives. Roma women practice the art of fortune telling. They don't read the fortunes of other Romani, just of non-Romani. They also practice the art of natural healing (seeing a doctor is forbidden). While April 8th is International Romani Day when 12 million celebrate worldwide only one million celebrate in the U.S.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

The Roma focus on this life. They're all about being together, telling fortunes, and healing people (which often fails). It's all about the here and now. Even their view of death is about this because they believe in reincarnation. There's no focus on a relationship with god, it's all about themselves.

~ _ . - [} > **Satanism** < {]

:- -

))If jumping into a live volcano feels right - do it!((

It all started with Black Mass. Supposedly (what most historical references say), it started in France in the fourteenth century. It grew in popularity in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. As the first part of the satanic movement these were their first "worship services". Black Masses were attended by English Noblemen who thought it was cool to do anti-church things. One very well-known mass took place for the mistress of King Louis XIV. They said the mass three times, then cut the throats of children. Their blood was drained and mixed with flour to make communion wafers. They took communion, then had an orgy. When people found out about the mass, almost 250 people who were involved were arrested - including some of France's highest ranking officials. Some were sent to jail - others were executed. Similar incidents reveal the same fashion. A French baron, Gilles De Rais was also accused of conducting Black Masses in his cellar. He was later found guilty of kidnapping, torturing and murdering over 140 children in the fifteenth century. (Apparently this religion is only for the mentally insane or the absolutely immoral. Either way you've gotta be twisted to believe this rubbish is what you should be doing with your life.)

Black Mass happens on the witches' Sabbath. Most satanic groups practice it. The ritual reverses the Catholic Mass, trashing the objects used in Christia worship. A lot of times a

naked woman is stretched out on the alter where the high priest ends the ritual by having sex with her. Sometimes they drink the blood of an animal and eat human flesh in a mock communion. Human sacrifice - some still do.

People who attend Black Mass are satanists. Basically this ceremony is just a parody of Catholic Mass. It's intended to make fun of the Mass, make fun of God and Jesus, and take jabs at the Christian religion. Attendees of the Black Mass perform the Catholic Mass back-ward. They turn the cross upside down and they spit on it - or they step on it. They stab the communion bread. Instead of using Holy water or wine, they use human urine (sick people!), and they'll use rotting vegetables or leather for communion bread. The priest performs the ceremony and usually wears a robe with an upside down cross or goat's head on it. They believe that Christ should be ridiculed and Satan should be worshiped.

In the nineteenth century, the Black Mass went into serious decline. Today, the Church of Satan doesn't officially practice it. Founded by Anton LaVey in 1966, the star of the movie *Rosemary's Baby*, but the ideas go way back through history. Since its founding LaVey's philosophy and teachings have grown into other Satan worshiping churches and denominations. But most give their props to LaVey for his teaching and for helping them get started. As of 1985 the government recognized the Church of Satan as a religion and stopped considering it as a cult. There were major legal actions to get this accomplished.

Satanists try to make their religion all mysterious and secret. There's really no mystery to it. It's just the opposite of Christianity - do what Christians think is wrong. They worship the devil of Christianity. They believe the world is in a constant battle between dark and light, that they are fighting on the dark side. All Christian sin is good, and all Christian good is evil. Lots of Satanists also do the divination

and black magic thing. They believe that in the end Satan will overthrow God and take over heaven.

They're all about materialism and hedonism. So when they say it's all about the spiritual world, that's just a crock. It's about feeling good now - getting what you want to make yourself happy. Satan is more of a symbol to them than a reality; if he were a reality to them, they'd probably be scared to death. What they're really about is worldly pleasure and sensuality. They want to get from the world all the pleasure they can, no holds barred (if they have to steal, lie, cheat to get it; they do it). They call on all kinds of evil spirits to get what they want.

> > : .. **_They Believe:**

- - Indulgence. (If it feels good, do it)
- - Vital Existence. (Kill yourself when you become unimportant)
- - Undefined wisdom. (Think anything - good thoughts are bad)
- - Kindness only to those that deserve it.
- - Vengeance. (Make your own rules for justice)
- - Responsibility only to those who are responsible.
- - The animal nature of man. (Believe in Evolution)
- - All "so-called sin" is the best friend the church has ever had.

The afterlife system is really simple - they want to go to hell. Suicide rates are high among satanists. They worship in a temple, they focus on worshiping Satan like he is a god. They don't keep in mind that everything written in the Holy Bible happens. If they would only read the last two chapters of Revelation then they would see that Satan in fact does lose, he doesn't win like they think. They frequently do animal sacrifices, human sacrifices, have sex clubs,

encourage drug use, deviation (talking with demonic spirits), and the casting of spells are all rituals and rites of satanism. They read out of the Satanic Bible written by Anton LaVey while also reading books on witchcraft (they love Harry Potter). The main geographic center is unfortunately in the United States (California) with 20,000 followers and growing every time the media makes witchcraft look fun and appealing to kids.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

The goal of Satanism is to seek pleasure. The way they do this is to ridicule God, the giver of abundant life. They worship the bad guy of the Bible - doesn't make much sense does it? There isn't really a trick to it, Satanism is real. All the stuff they believe in exists in a real way. But it's evil. Satanists hate God. They have "sold their soul to the devil." They are partners with the Father of Lies. Their whole lives are ruled by lies. It's no wonder that Satanism has always been associated with suicide, an indication that they're not having that great of a time despite the fact that they are constantly seeking pleasure. Believing in this is about as rational as cooking potatoes in a clothes dryer. Not to mention the coincidence of Satan's interchangeable name, the "Devil," being spelled backwards (as is the notion that believing in Satanism provides it's believer by believing in the opposite teaching of the Bible) being of course spelled "Lived" which is evident in contemplation and observation due to the fact that the book of Revelation states that "Satan" will be thrown into a lake of fire to be consumed and devoured by it's destruction. Never to live again. Would you follow someone who was ultimately doomed in the end?

_ .. - [} > Shinto < {] :- -

))Ancestor Worship((

Shinto has no real founder, no written scriptures, no body of religious law, and a loosely organized priesthood. It started about 500 B.C. as a mix of nature worship, fertility cults, worship and shamanism. Basically the followers took a bunch of ideas from other religions, mixed them together and made a new religion. Its name comes from the words shin tao, which means "the way of the gods." The origin, is among the most humorous the worlds religions have to offer. Shintos believe that Kojiki, one of the first celestial gods, told Izanagi and Izanami - male and female gods - to sleep together so that they could create the islands of Japan. They did. Although not mentioned in the Guinness Book of World records for the biggest vagina, Izanami holds the record undeniably. Considering the size of Japan (what she gave birth to) will reveal just how big it is. The total area of Japan is 145,883 sq mi. Comparatively, the area occupied by Japan is slightly smaller than the state of California. It extends 1,869 mi NE-SW and 1,022 mi SE-NW and has a total coastline of 18,486 mi. So Izanami's vagina had to be at least 1,869 by 1,022 miles in length and width - let's just leave the height out of it, it's already big enough. Just imagine rocks, trees, massive amounts of dirt, cattle, and people just falling out of Izanami's vagina, because that's exactly what they believe happened! Although no explanation for the rest of the world is offered as to "origins" - but only Japan. Where did everything else come from? They don't know so don't ask the Shinto's!

Izanagi and Izanami also created the deities governing the wind, water, grains, minerals, and fire and eventually Amaterasu, the great Kami of the sun. Although the world is a big place, this religion explicitly states how Japan got here but not the rest of the world. The Japanese people believe themselves to be the descendants of Kami, which are superior beings with sacred power. Which might just be why they thought they could enslave the world in WWII because they are the "superior race" after all. They worship all things "Japanese."

A huge part of Shinto is the focus on ancestor worship. They believe that their dead relatives are near them as spirits and are able to help them. They worship them just like they worship the deities, because they believe that after physical death a human spirit still lives to become guardians for them. Believers also respect animals as messengers of the deities. They also think: people are good, the emperor is divine, things that are moral help the group, pray to many gods, and they don't need to be saved because they're good. The four affirmations in Shinto to follow to be good are among the most simple found in religions. Tradition and the family are preserved through family. A love of nature is a must; nature is sacred, so if you're in contact with it (you can't be out of contact with it), you're in contact with the divine. Physical cleanliness is a requirement to being good - they take baths 3 times a day. Lastly in order to be good the attendance of Matsuri the festival honoring the spirits is imperative.

There is no all-powerful deity representing the followers of Shinto but they believe in "Kami." They downplay what happens in the afterlife. When someone dies their spirit can go live in heaven (where Kami lives), the other world of Yomi (where the divine females who gave birth to Japan live), or Tokoyo (which is thought to be beyond the sea), or "the

other world beyond the mountains." They read the Kojiki (records of ancient matters) and Nihongi (chronicles of Japan). Neither of their sacred texts are said to be "inspired" by the gods. Worship is conducted in shrines dedicated to specific kamis. It is unfortunate for those who are not Japanese who would like to convert to this religion - however this is impossible because you have to be Japanese. You can convert if you want (by simply believing what they believe) but the Kojiki implies - only Japanese descent enters into any of their afterlife's. With four million worldwide and 6,000 in the U.S. Shinto remains to be insanity in action.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

They worship a bunch of gods who are not all-powerful. If they aren't all-powerful, how can they really be gods? The real question is, can a god be a god if he isn't perfect? And if he's not really a god, then why worship him? And why doesn't Japan smell like it came from the world's largest vagina since they say it did? Everything they have to offer is entirely illogical. None of it could possibly compute into any form of even the most distorted version of truth.

_ .. - [} > Sikhism < {] :- -

))Got Enlightenment?((

Punjab, India late 1400s when Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji founded the Sikh religion. He received a vision from god and was told to preach to people about god's enlightenment. But apparently, this wasn't just any old vision. He disappeared into a river for three days. People looked for him like crazy, but he finally just reappeared (as the story has it). He claimed that he was hanging out with god, and god had told him the secret of the universe. So, naturally - he became a preacher. When he died, he was succeeded by nine different gurus. The most important of these was Gobind Singh. He came up with the "five symbols of identity". When he died, he declared that the holy scriptures of the Sikhs would be his successor instead of another person. This meant that there would be no more revelation from god.

They believe in one god. They think that he is supreme truth and eternal. They believe in reincarnation - which is the idea we're constantly being born, dying, and being born again. They also believe that self-centeredness is the source of all evil and that a person achieves spiritual enlightenment by god's grace. Sikhs try to get enlightened, not saved. All people can experience god - there is no caste system. The five symbols of identity are uncut hair, combed hair, steel bangle, undershorts, and a short sword. If you don't have those five things going for you - you can't join the Sikhs. Through the Amrit ceremony you become a Sikh by making the vows to never smoke or drink, don't cut hair, don't eat sacrificed animals, no sex outside of marriage, and wear the

five symbols of identity at all times (no way around it, I've looked).

Equality is in this system most definitely. This means that women can preach to men and lead prayers. Sikhs don't dis' other religions because they don't think they've got the true way to get to god. They don't try to get people converted. They teach that earth (Maya) is an illusion, this is a central belief where one's attachment to the world is the hindrance from breaking free from the reincarnation cycle. They say Naam is god, they pray several times a day to him. Morning prayers, evening prayers, and before going to bed. They mainly read the Granth Sahib or Adi Granth the two books written by the ten gurus. Worship takes place in temples called gurdwaras. They bow down to their scriptures, (just written words) as an act of reverence. Anyone can be a member of the Sikh religion, but not everyone goes through the simple Khalsa (baptism ceremony). Main geographic center of worship is India with 22.5 million worldwide, with 500,000 in the U.S.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

The whole reincarnation idea is really hard to believe. Why? Well, more people are being born all the time and the world's population is growing. (the math says it just doesn't work). But if souls just die and come back, where are all the extra souls coming from? New ones? And are no souls being enlightened and going to Nirvana? It just doesn't make a lot of sense just like the whole "dressing special" in order to be enlightend deal. Adhering to the dress code of enlightenment is like saying "everyone who wears blue colored clothing is enlightened - the rest are hopeless."

_ .. - [} > Taoism < {] :- -

))Harmony((

Little is known about the founder of Taoism. Some say he was born in 604 B.C., others say 570 B.C. Some say he was born old, with white hair, a long white beard, and wrinkly old skin. Others say his mom named him Plum-Tree-Ears because he was born under a plum tree incidentally having long ears. (Imagine trying to get a date with a name like that.) But his followers just call him Lao-Tzu, old philosopher. Apparently he worked for the Chinese government as a curator of the imperial archives. But Lao-Tzu soon was disgusted with the mean rulers and the idea of government itself, so he quit. He believed men should live simple lives without a hierarchy of honor and without trying to gain knowledge. Everyone loved the idea, people started following him. In an attempt to escape his fame he tried leaving the city but the border guards wouldn't let him leave. They told him that his teachings were so great that he had to write them down to share with others, and until then he could not pass.

So Lao goes home and spends three days writing all he knows. He comes out with a little book called the "Tao te King" or "The Way and Its Power." (And yes, calling it a "little book" is very appropriate considering that it only takes up 5 pages and is only 81 verses. Some would even argue that it's status as a "book" is highly debatable.) No one is sure what happened to him. One story says that he got on the back of a water buffalo and rode off into the sunset never to be seen again. Another says that the guard read the little book (5 pages) and decided to go with him. Either way, no

one ever saw him again. Taoists do not focus on life after death. Instead they work out practical ways to live as long as they can so they can be immortal. Tao literally means "the way" or "path." It is the way of the universe, the way one should organize their life. You get there by practicing Wu Wei, meaning "inaction." We must avoid all aggression by doing things that are natural and spontaneous. We should live passively, avoiding all stress and violence. (How many religions adhere to this philosophy? Tons.)

The Yin and Yang: You've seen it on clothes, skateboards, necklaces and all kinds of stuff. Basically the yin-yang symbol represents the tension between good (yin) and bad (yang) things in the world. It goes something like this:

Yin (Good) Yang (Bad)

Male Female

Positive Negative

Good Evil

Light Dark

Life Death

In Taoism yin and yang are positive and negative principles of the universe. One cannot exist without the other. As you have more and more yang, eventually yin will appear to balance it out, and vice versa. As you travel around the

circle, white or black will increase, until the opposite color is almost gone, but never totally gone. The cycle repeats for the opposite color. The less action you take, the less good or bad happens - but this is considered the hardest path to take (considering people find it hard to be reclusive). The less you interact with the world the better.

Harmony can only be achieved by looking at the world turned upside down. They have no god at all but deify a lot of people. When they die they go to the Tao, only if they fail to achieve immortality by which they live on earth forever. To become a Taoist one only has to believe what they say is true. Worship (of self, since there is no god) is conducted in a temple. They believe in keeping peace with everyone but yet invented Kung Fu thousands of years ago because they were not allowed to carry weapons (Kung Fu is more dangerous than a weapon some would say). While the followers number at an amazing 20 million believers worldwide hoping to achieve immortality the main geographic center is Taiwan. Only 30,000 believe this in the U.S.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

They have no afterlife. They focus on immortality (the average Chinese person lives only 65-80 years) which doesn't seem to be working. If their immortality system did work, why isn't there one of these Taoists (being immortal) that's 900 years old and has not died? It's about becoming deified (god like, or supreme) and achieving immortality. Basically these people place the notion of god on themselves, so since none of them are immortal - why believe it?

_ . - [} > Vedanta < {] :- -

))Supreme Wisdom((

The roots go back to ancient India. Thousands of years before the birth of Christ, the sages there discovered the truths of Vedanta - that god is one but is called different names by different religions, that god can be known, and that our true nature is divine. In recent times, Swami Vivekananda - a brilliant young student in Calcutta, India - was asking the religious teachers he met, "Sir, have you seen god?" When he asked Sri Ramakrishna, Ramakrishna replied, "Yes, I have seen god. I see him as I see you here, only more clearly. God can be seen. One can talk to him. If one cries sincerely for god, one can surely see him." Ramakrishna spoke from experience.

As a young man, he had unending desire for union with god, a desire so strong that even things like eating and sleeping became unimportant to him. He was rewarded with the direct vision of god. He sought god through different religions, and as he continued his pursuit of god, he would experience extremely high states of consciousness - states of communion with god - in which truths were revealed to him. Through these moments he realized that every religion, including Christianity, all had the same purpose. All of them sought god. Therefore all religions were worthy and good. Sri Ramakrishna began teaching young Indian men and women what he found.

Vedanta is more a philosophy than a religion. It's a philosophy that's very practical. In other words, you'll not find a lot of stuff that doesn't "work" here, not a lot of

impractical ideas. The word Vedanta comes from two Sanskrit (Indian) words. Veda (means "wisdom") and Anta (means end - as in "the last word") . So Vedanta means "supreme wisdom." God is one being, he doesn't need any other being but himself. He can assume any form to convey his presence. They believe god is in us, and our nature is divine. Religion is a creation of humans who are on the search for the divine that is in them. Humans are part of a divine, cosmic consciousness. Meditation is a heavy role in practicing Vedanta, you have to do it four times a day. This is where "Yoga" comes from. It's the main sacrament in Vedanta. Yoga exists for one purpose: to channel the energies that you have to help lead you to god. The word yoga in Sanskrit means "yoke" and signifies the union between the soul and god. There are four kinds of yogas, and it's best to do all of them and keep each in a "harmonious balance" in your life.

All religions are correct they say. It's important to respect all religions since they're on the same quest - to find god and to discover god in us. They say you can connect with god in many different ways. God can be known - when we find god, we feel immense bliss, peace and love. Bhakta yoga cultivates a relationship between god through prayer, ritual and worship. Jnana yoga is all about reason: understanding god and get freedom through the understanding that god is everywhere. Through this yoga you see god in everything - both good and bad events, moments and emotions. Raja yoga is meditation by which you know god through concentration - thinking intensely about god, until your mind is raised to god's level. Karma yoga is service. You get to know god and help others through this kind of yoga.

The afterlife is not focused on but yet again it's all about your karma to determine what you will be reincarnated as (fish, dog, fat plumber, or oak tree). To break the cycle of

reincarnation is the highest goal however - this is done by knowing who we really are (self-examination) and rising to god-consciousness. This can only be done as a human being. Worship is conducted in a temple or in a small shrine in one's own home. The style of worship changes a lot from group to group. They read out of one of the oldest texts we know of, there are four - Rig-Veda, Sama-Veda, Yajur-Veda, Atharva-Veda. They include Upanishads, the Rig-Veda is the oldest existing scripture on earth (that we know of). Other scriptures are the Bhagavad Gita and the Vedanta Sutras. To become one you just have to believe what they say is true. Vedanta organizations have their own hospitals, maternity wards, nurse training centers, schools, and colleges in India. No one's sure about the exact number of people that are involved in Vedanta, so, here's what we know. They've got thirteen "societies" in the United States, and there are also more than 1,000 centers that are related to Vedanta.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

If we are divine, then we are gods. And if we are gods, we have to be perfect in every aspect, including being all-knowing. So their argument that we're gods and just don't realize it doesn't hold up. We aren't gods; we'd know it if we were.

_ . - [} > Zoroastrianism < {] :- -

))Good Vs. Evil((

Zoroastrianism began with an ancient prophet called Zarathushtra (his name is Zoroaster in Greek, get it?) He was an Iranian prophet who lived about 1500 B.C. He was born at a time when there was loads of bad things going on, pagan gods. When he was thirty he had visions of the "one and supreme god" he called Ahura Mazda. (Ever wonder where they got the name "Mazda" for all the cars?) As opposed to some of the evil deities people were worshiping, the "one god" Ahura Mazda was all good and stood opposed to all the evil in the world, and it was Zarathushtra's job to tell people about Ahura Mazda. How'd he do it? Songs. He wrote a lot of songs telling people all about how Ahura Mazda is the all-knowing, eternal god of creation. He was the "lord of wisdom." Through these songs, Zarathushtra told everyone that they should worship Ahura Mazda because he was good.

However, Ahura had an evil counterpart - Anghra Mainyu. Zarathushtra taught people that Ahura knew all about this bad guy and that he knew that he could whoop up on him if he wanted. So, Ahura had this plan - create a world that would trap Anghra Mainyu. It was called the "Seven Creations." He knew that Angra would be attracted to this world, and would fill it with all his evil. So what does that mean for man? They're in the middle of this fight (like kids whose parents are fighting for custody.) Man has to decide which path he wants to follow, like a kid decides which

parent he wants to live with. Zarathushtra taught that people should choose Ahura Mazda and should fight against Anghra Mainyu. How? Through seven qualities known as the Amesha Spentas. If mankind would live these, Zarathushtra believed that evil would be defeated. (Notice how he thinks mankind can destroy evil. Looks like he never heard of Satanism - boy, he's gonna have to kill all of them, but that would be evil too, thats a problem isn't it.)

> > : .. **_The Seven Creations:**

- - Goodness
- - The Good Mind
- - Truth
- - Power
- - Devotion
- - Perfection
- - Immortality

And the plot thickens. Man is on a personal quest to get rid of evil and promote the good spirit of Ahura Mazda. He's also on a quest to protect and respect the seven creations: sky, water, earth, plants, cattle, man, and fire. Fire being the most important of course because it's considered to be the source of all our warmth, light, and life. Man should enjoy (without overdoing it) the gifts that are on earth. Followers should lead a good, prosperous, and healthy life. And here it is: A savior will be born of a virgin, of the line of Zoroaster. This person will raise the dead and judge everyone. (Sound familiar?)

There is no way anyone can join Zoroastrianism if they are not born into it, it's just a birth thing. So don't go thinking

about converting because you can't. They believe when you die, your soul is judged. After that, it gets either a reward or a punishment depending on how you lived on earth. If your soul is found righteous, it goes to the "abode of joy and light." If it's found wicked, it goes to the "abode of darkness and gloom" (i.e. hell). But, since there's no eternal damnation in Zoroastrianism, time in the gloomy place is temporary. A series of saviors will come to redeem the lost. And, when Ahura Mazda comes and time ends, each soul will be judged again. Eventually everyone will spend eternity with Ahura Mazda. They worship in Fire temples, there are no idols. This was the first non-biblical monotheistic religion. They read from the Avesta. The main geographic location for believers is India, but they're originally from Iran (ancient Persia) before the Arabs came there. With 150,000 followers worldwide and 5,000 in the U.S. You can expect that you will probably never meet one of these people.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

If they think we're all going to be saved anyway, what's the use in trying to live by all these rules? That's the flaw in their thinking - why do anything the right way or the wrong way when it doesn't matter in the end? Simply pointless isn't it - it entirely negates cause making it very detached from reality.

_... -::[]> Judaism <{}::- -

))Waiting for the Messiah((

The Jews have been around a long time, more than three thousand years in fact. Christianity has its roots in Judaism, and many Christians celebrate their Jewish history. The story behind Judaism is found in the Old Testament of the Bible. It all started when God told Abraham it was time for him to move. He was supposed to take his family and go, and they didn't know where they were going. God promised that if Abraham would follow him He would bless him, giving him tons of kids and grandkids and making them into a nation - Israel.

So Abraham believed God, and God gave him a son - Isaac. Isaac had a son, Jacob whose name was changed to Israel. Israel's family moved to Egypt when their country was hit with a famine. There they were made slaves and were supposed to build cities for Pharaoh. They cried out for help to God, and He sent them Moses. Moses led them out in "The Exodus" - that's when they all left Egypt; went to the desert , crossed the Red Sea, ate manna, and all that stuff you've seen in the movie The Ten Commandments.

But these guys didn't quite get it. They didn't understand just how awesome God is, and they kept rebelling against Him. He took them to the Promised Land, but they were scared to go in. So God made them wander in the desert for forty years. Lost for forty years. And then, when they got back there again, only a few guys had the nerve to go check it out. Finally they entered with Joshua as their leader. After Joshua, they were ruled for many years (like in the

hundreds) by people called "judges." During this time they fought a lot of wars and ended up losing and winning some. When they got tired of all that, they asked God for a king like all the other nations had. God wasn't too keen on that - He was their King - but He gave them what they wanted: Saul. Saul wasn't a great king, he messed up a lot, so when he died God gave them David. This was one cool guy. He conquered Jerusalem and made it Israel's capital. In the Bible it says he was "a man after God's own heart"; that means that he was in tune with God. His son Solomon became king when he died, and Solomon built a temple. During his reign Israel became a powerful nation. When Solomon died the kingdom got split in two - Judah and Israel. In 721 B.C. the northern kingdom of Israel was defeated in battle, and in 586 B.C. the Babylonians whipped the southern kingdom of Judah. The Jews were now refugees. The Babylonians destroyed the temple. This meant worship called synagogues. The teachers in the synagogue were rabbis. With the Jew being in exile, their lives changed a lot. They learned Greek and Aramaic, and some didn't learn the biblical Hebrew that everyone knew before. During this time the Old Testament was translated into Greek. This was called the Septuagint.

In 167 B.C. the Jews rebelled and got independence for the Jewish nation. This is what they celebrate now with the festival for Hanukkah. But this freedom was short-lived. In 63 B.C. they were made part of the Roman Empire, and puppet leaders were put in place. This continued during the life of Jesus. In 70 A.D. the Roman general Titus destroyed Jerusalem and the Jews scattered.

When Christianity became a state religion in the Roman Empire in 325 A.D. the Jews were seen as a rejected people and the center of Judaism was moved to Babylon. It was more than 1,600 years until the Jews were together as a nation again - in 1948 David Ben Gurion and other Zionists founded the nation of Israel in the Middle East.

Jews believe that God is an omniscient, omnipotent Creator who is present everywhere, and they pray to Him alone. They also believe that the words of the prophets are true, that the Torah will not be changed, that God blesses and punishes, that the Messiah is coming, and that all dead will rise and exalt God forever. Forgiveness can be accomplished by sacrifice (although they don't do this anymore, even though they are supposed to), repentance (to regret something and be sorry for), good deeds, prayer, and God's grace. Man is justified by strict observance of the law. Jews do not believe in original sin. Man was born righteous and virtuous. They do not believe that Jesus is the Messiah, because He did not bring a world without suffering or political triumph. They don't believe that Jesus is the Son of God, they simply think He was a great prophet or teacher.

> > : .. _Four Divisions of Judaism:

- Orthodox > Observe most of the traditional dietary and ceremonial laws of Judaism, follow the law of the Old Testament.
- Hasidic Judaism > These Jews have long beards and sideburns; they walk everywhere and refuse modern technology. Observance of the laws in exact detail without the sacrificing even though by the law it is required.
- Reform Judaism > The liberal wing of Judaism. Emphasizes religion as a source of ethics. Abraham Geiger (1810-1874) believed that modern people could not accept revelation. Reform Jews believe in the deep-seated sense of kinship within the Jewish people. The hope for a Messiah was fulfilled with the Jewish emancipation. The Torah is a source of ethics to be shared with the world but not taken literally.

- Conservative Judaism > A happy medium between Orthodox and Reform, founded in the nineteenth century.

The afterlife is Heaven (although misconceived, this is covered later) when everyone is raised from the dead. While the sacred texts they read are: the Torah (first five books of the Old Testament), the Bible (the entire Christian Old Testament), the Talmud (a commentary on the Torah, second only to the Bible in importance), and the Mishnah (oral law). Worship services are conducted in a synagogue - involve prayer, singing and chanting, reading of the Scriptures, commentary, etc.. The day worship is observed fall on the Sabbath, a holy day of rest to remember that God created the world and set the Jews free from bondage in Egypt. It's a day of thanksgiving for the many blessings from God. Also observed is the Passover, a feast to celebrate their deliverance from slavery into Egypt (read more in Exodus 12). Holidays consist of Rosh Hashanah (Jewish new year), Yom Kippur the day of atonement, devoted to confession of sins and reconciliation with God and others, a day of fasting. Lastly the most famous - Hanukkah, eight days in winter based on the story of Maccabees in the Apocrypha these day celebrate the heroic acts of a small group of Jews who overthrew the introduction of worship of Greek gods as a state religion. While those who follow these traditions and holidays number over 12 million worldwide, the majority can be found in Israel with six million in the U.S. They keep thriving with an unchangeable mentality and nature of conduct.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

They believe that Jesus was a great prophet - you either have to believe everything Jesus said (including that He was God) or you have to consider Him a raving lunatic. You can't think He was a good teacher and not believe that He was God - it just doesn't make sense. Either they are misinformed, not informed at all or are so indulged by tradition that nothing else matters - which is the case for most of the practitioners of many religions.

_ .. - [} > Christianity < {]

:- -

))When The Messiah Came((

Christianity goes back to the beginning of time, so its history is really, really long. But we'll start about two thousand years ago - when Christianity became different from Judaism. That was because of Jesus. You know the Christmas carols - silent night, shepherds, wise men, angels. The cool thing is that it's all true. Jesus was born in a manger (what animals ate out of) and grew up in the area that's Israel now. The Bible doesn't tell us about His teens and twenties, but when He was about thirty He began what lots of pastors call His "public ministry." He started preaching and performing miracles all over the Palestinian area. He had twelve disciples - guys who lived and worked with Him and believed that He was God. Then, three years later; He was crucified. The religious leaders did this because they thought He was a heretic when He said He was God's Son. But, three days later, He rose from the dead - making good on all His promises and the prophecies of the Old Testament. Many say that Jesus never committing a sin was effortless because He made the law and the fact that He rose from the dead meant just that (God cannot die).

The Christian church has had lots of twists and turns since then. Its history hasn't been spotless (think the Roman Catholic Inquisition, the Crusades.. etc), and it has a ton or branches - Catholic, Orthodox, Baptist, Presbyterian, Charismatic, Anglican, Episcopal, Methodist .. the list goes on. But for the past two thousand years it's been a pretty

huge focus in society and it's the largest religion on the face of the earth. Christianity is the only religion where we don't have to work our way to God. He left heaven to come to earth to save His people - we don't have to do anything except believe Him. Jesus is the Son of God. He was born to a virgin girl named Mary - the fact that she was pregnant was a miracle, a God thing. Everything in the Holy Bible is true. Christians believe that people are sinful from the get go and need a savior. Thank Adam and Eve. When God created them, they were perfect, but they chose to eat the fruit they weren't supposed to and that's where we got sin (evil, disobedience etc). Read about animal sacrifice in the Jewish law - it was the way God set up forgiveness in the Old Testament. But when Jesus came to earth. Why? Because we couldn't do it on our own. We needed a sacrifice that was pure and without blemish, to take all our sins like no goat could. We needed a perfect sacrifice - enter Jesus.

Jesus comes in to save the world, not with an iron fist but with an invitation. An invitation to get up close and personal with the God of the universe. He offers the only way to get to Him. Jesus Himself became that way. Accept Jesus, accept God. Deny Jesus, deny God. No more priests, no more third-person removed. Through this guy, Jesus, we all have access to God. Jesus had to die as the final sacrifice for all sin - past, present, and future. But the kicker is that He rose again after that horrible death, to sit up in heaven with God, because God cannot die, and Jesus is God made man.

> > : .. **_Important History:**

The protestant church as its roots in the whole protestant Reformation. Here's an easy way to look at it. Before the mid to late 1400s A.D. the Catholic church as the key church in the western world. Everyone who went to church went to a Catholic church. The people believed in God because they always had, and because

believing in God explained the way the universe worked. Hardly anyone outside the leadership of the church ever read the Bible (they really didn't even have a Bible they could understand) because it was all written in ancient languages. Then a dude named Martin Luther came along.

Martin Luther was a poor guy. His dad saved all his money so Luther could go to school. He went to school in Germany (because he was German), and was supposed to go to law school (his dad wanted him to go), but Luther was almost struck by lightening one day, and decided that it was a sign for him to become a monk. He entered a monastery (where monks live) and became fascinated with God's Word. He hated that the Bible was locked away where the common people couldn't get to it.

At the same time, Luther noticed a movement in the church called the indulgence movement. This was where people could buy salvation for their dead family members. The church made loads of money off this, but it really couldn't do what it promised, which upset Luther. He also didn't like the fact that the church claimed to be able to forgive people, the church had removed God from the act of forgiveness.

Luther was all about the Word of God. It was his measuring stick for everything. So, when he noticed the whole indulgence thing, and the fact that regular ordinary people couldn't read God's Word (because if they could they would know that at no point in the Bible does it say the church has the ability to forgive sins, only God does), he began to act. In opposition Luther nailed a document called the 95 Theses to the door of a church. The Ninety-Five Theses listed ninety-five reasons why it was wrong for the church to sell indulgences. From there, Luther was in all kinds of trouble. He was excommunicated and threatened a lot. But once he

stood against the status quo. Luther began a movement that became bigger than he was. It started people thinking about a new way to look at God. It put God's Word in the hands of the common person just like it was meant to be. Jesus did not come to save only those who could read nor those who were rich, nor the poor - He came to save everyone (not just Black, Japanese, or Hispanic), making everyone equal partakers in His Kingdom, Salvation and Sovereignty.

God Exists : This is a basic belief among protestants. Protestants believe that God eternally exists, and we can have a relationship with Him through Jesus. Protestants believe that we can know God and know about Him through reading the Bible, thinking about Him (using out rational minds), and learning about Him from other people (like preachers, Sunday school teachers.. etc). In the Bible, He is called our Heavenly Father.

Jesus : He is God's eternal Son. He was present at the creation of the universe and throughout history. He walked the earth, He was crucified for our sins (so we can have a relationship with God), and He rose again and lives in heaven. Jesus is often called The Word made flesh.

> > : .. **_Basic Beliefs:**

- The Holy Spirit : God's eternal Spirit sent to earth to teach, inspire, convict and guide. You read a lot about the Holy Spirit in the book of Acts (especially in the first few chapters). He's often associated with power and miraculous events - even in our day.
- Scripture : Protestants look at God's Word like it's directly from God's mouth. They read 2 Timothy 3:16 (check it out) as proof that the Bible they use is from

God. Protestants believe that God's Word is without error because no one can find an error.

- Good vs. Evil : Protestants talk a lot about the evil that's in the world. They attach the idea of evil to Satan, an angel who lived in heaven with God until he decided to do things his own way. They admit that there's evil in the world - and God allows the evil to exist for a short time for a reason.
- Sacraments : Protestants believe that Jesus began two very important sacraments - the Lord's Supper (aka Communion) and baptism. What are these sacraments, and what makes them so important? Well, they're the two "ritualistic type" things that Jesus actually participated in on earth (in other words, Jesus was baptized, and He started the Lord's Supper when He had the Last Supper with His disciples). Jesus made it clear that He expected believers to keep doing these two things after He went to heaven.
- Faith : Protestants use their minds to think about God, and they use their reason to decide whether He exists or not. But, many believe that there comes a point when reason does not work. In other words, you can't think your way to God. You've got to have faith. Faith is a trusting obedience in the work of Jesus who died instead of you to pay the penalty for your sin. Your faith makes God happy.

To become a Christian one must only have faith in Jesus Christ that He is the Lord of your life and say with your mouth. It's as simple as that. No initiation, no physical torture, no hours of research or meditation. "By grace you are saved through faith" (Ephesians 2:8). That means we don't deserve it, but if we believe, we'll be saved anyway. The main attraction is it's permanence. Once God saves you, you don't have to do any "work" to keep Him loving you. He

is the perfect Father you never had. You know from that day on you are eternally loved. He promises to never leave you and never forsake you. And best of all, you have the creator of the universe on your side.

The afterlife setup is believe in Jesus to accept God (heaven). To deny Jesus is to deny God (hell). The world view is monotheistic, that there is only one God, no others. This is the largest religion in the world, and primarily the one that has spawned more religions than any other. Read back and see how many other religions read parts of the Bible and that interpret the Bible in their own special way. For private interpreters it must be asked - How can one verse mean more than one thing? It is only logic to say that a verse can be interpreted only to its own meaning rather than the wishful thinking of the reader, such personal desires throughout history have created so much suffering and confusion all on the count of private interpretation. For this reason alone, it is why so many ask the question "Is there contradictions in the Bible?", the answer is no, opinionatedness of the various private interpreters are what contradicts. The Bible has always said the same thing, people just say what it says in many different ways meaning that only the original verse and not the interpretation is correct. It would do those who are guilty of such assimilation of information to read 2 Peter 1:20 "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation." Is the Bible telling people that interpret scriptures in their own way not to? This literally means that there are so many Bible believing hypocrites that it could be considered a disease. With more divisions than any other religion, the massive amount of people following after Jesus is more likely the reasoning behind such division (as listed above). With over 2 billion worldwide and 224 million in the U.S. Christianity is what the majority of the world believes. Although the religion started in the Holy Land, Israel, but

now it has spread to almost every country in the world; growing everyday.

}}>-.Plato's Logical Assessment.-<{{

There's no trick here. Christianity is unique because it's the only religion where the believers can't save themselves. Their God is actually God because the people are completely lost without Him. It's really that simple. However, traditional Christianity (what most practice and believe) teaches contrary ideas to those that the Bible actually teaches. These issues will be covered in the Conclusion. See door 39 for more information regarding the authenticity of this logical assessment.

_...-::[[[]]

Confusion [[[]]::- -

Religious

))Conclusion((

If you have made it this far (contemplating as you go) then it is with certainty that you have the ability to think about anything. Not many I suspect will be able to carry out the degree of necessary skill when dealing with the worlds most intense subject: Religion. Feel confident dear reader that (since this book is not burned and you are still reading) you still have the trait of independent thinking. Can you honestly say that the lot of society has the same skill? If there is no one left to sift through the ashes of the past while delicately explaining its intensity to the whole; then who will be left to solve the problem of religion?

Logic leads to God. However, with so many different views as to who the real God is - someone must be right and everyone else must be wrong or just lying. Do you get tired of lies? Do you recognize how many lies you are constantly being told? We have become desensitized to lying since it has become such a normal part of living. Accepting the status quo is a second nature supposedly required to maintain mental solace. This too is a lie. Lying is the outcome of people being right in their own eyes and stubbornly holding to their own viewpoint, regardless of evidence to the contrary.

Lies are constantly in politics and government, and we tend to simply accept it. Rarely does anyone address issues truthfully. And when such a rare thing does occur, many simply do not want to hear the truth. Politics and lying are

quite synonymous. We are constantly being bombarded by little lies, big lies and every kind of shading of the truth that falls in between. In talk shows, books, advertising, and the news - what is the truth? How often do you find genuine truth, fidelity, honesty, and faithfulness in marital relationships? Again, how many lies? Over half of all marriages in the United States end in divorce. Are lies involved in such cases? Constantly!

Are there lies in the work place, in corporations and between employers and employees? People live with lies and deceit every day, and this very thing contributes mightily to the daily stress of life. Lies hurt relationships and cause people to be agitated and angry at one another. How much stress is added to other areas of your life because of lies? What about relationships in families and the home, with children and parents, and between neighbors, friends or relatives? The list is endless, but we simply don't stop to consider how such a thing impacts everyday life. The consequences are enormous and far greater than anyone can imagine. So how long has it been since you were lied to by someone? How many hours has it been?

Religion is the worst offender. There it is, I said it. Religion is the greatest all time culprit when it comes to lying and deceit. Religion has had a devastating impact on people in all nations of the world. Just take a good look at history and see the detestation unfold before your eyes. The adage of "history repeating itself" may not be just a saying after all but more of an evident state of current events opposing or releasing idealistic tension through alternative physical means of retaliation in varying ways. Throughout time, this world's religions have been the greatest cause of evil and human suffering. It is to say, the clash of lying religions is about to erupt on a worldwide scale that will affect every person on earth. Why is this, and how is such a thing

possible? Because it has happened before - the Muslims are doing it everyday, even as you read.

This book addresses religion because, whether you know it or not, at this very time, religion is at the heart and core of your life, even if you are not religious. Most people don't like to discuss this subject, much less mention the word "God." This book is not religiously creamy or preachy, but it does candidly discuss religion and God; yet not in the manner you are accustomed to hearing. The truth is, religion is the greatest cause of suffering and evil in this world, and it is due to this that the greatest clash of religion the world has ever known will eventually erupt. Why so much confusion? Deception is at the very heart of the problems that exist among nations and religions of this world. Where, if any, is the truth and where are the lies? No matter where people live on this earth, they have been lied to all their lives. This is true, whether it is on the job, in politics and government, or in families and communities; but it is most true in religion.

When it comes to religion, who is right; or is anyone right? When it comes to this subject, isn't it true that everyone believes he or she is right? And if someone is right, then others who believe differently are wrong.

Truth is at the very heart of this subject. By its definition, only one thing can be true when it comes to God and His way. There cannot be many differing ideas about God and His word with all of them being right. Only one can be right! Only one can be true! God told man that there is only one faith, one belief, one hope, one "good news" from God, and one God. If this is true, then there are big problems with this world's religions! God states what should be obvious, "...no lie is of the truth" (1 John 2:21).

To make this matter clear, if two religious organizations both claim to be Christian, but they are in opposition over any single doctrine, then by definition only one can possibly be

true. This is important to understand so that you can see the magnitude of the problem in the examples given in this conclusion.

A persons prejudice, concerning one's religious beliefs, will mostly depend upon where they were born in the world and the faith they were taught by their parents. When I was about six years old, I remember reasoning: if there is no Easter Bunny, then Santa Claus must not be real either. If any parent teaches such things to their children, then at some early point in their lives they will learn that Santa Claus is not real - that he is a hoax. Is it any wonder I learned of more lies in traditional Christianity as I matured? If children are taught lies then is it any wonder they learn to be skeptical and mistrusting?

Is there a God? Most would answer "yes," Then, if so, who is He and who is telling the truth about Him? Everyone should ask, "Does He have a spokesman on earth - someone He speaks through as He did in days of old?" The very reason behind concluding that the Holy Scriptures (aka the Bible) must be the Word of God is due to it being the only "sacred-text" that lacks scientific error (does not contain any). Not to mention the several scientific statements it does make thousands of years before any human could have ever even known such things to be scientifically true (see 4000 Year Old Science in Door 38 for further examination).

Do Catholics, who make up 1.2 billion people on earth, represent the true God? Is the Pope the true spokesman for God on earth (even though he is elected by men)? Or do the 1.3 billion believers in Islam have the true knowledge of the one God they call Allah? What about the remaining 1 billion people (separate from the number of those in the Catholic faith) who make up "traditional Christianity"? And what about the faith of 900 million in Hinduism, or the 400 million

in Buddhism, or the 14 million that comprise Judaism? Obviously there is a creator, the world is too complex to say it originated from nothing which is what far too many religions would have us believe. Thus, the existence of a creator is required by simple logic and several priories. So just who is this God?

If we understand the definition of "truth," then we know we have a big problem in answering the question about one true belief. It should be abundantly clear that there are millions on earth who are deceived. If there are thousands of separate organizations within "traditional Christianity" that differ greatly in doctrinal belief (and there are), then only one, if any, can possibly be true.

Are all these religious groups throughout the world worshiping the same God? No! Their very beliefs and doctrine represent different teachings about God. All of them cannot be true. If they were all true, then they would be in agreement with one another and only one belief would be with the entire populous of the planet.

Having one's origin in the God of Abraham does not make one true. There are over 3.5 billion people who claim such origin. Those who speak about the one and selfsame God do not teach the same things about Him. That is the problem! The reality is that there are billions on the earth who speak of God but do not teach the truth about Him, especially about what He says. Simply using the name of God or Jesus Christ does not make one true. Many use the name of the Creator God and the Son of God Jesus Christ, but they teach a false God and a false Christ. Isn't it confusing? Is it any wonder that the world is in such chaos? Religious belief or no religious belief (which accounts for 1.1 billion people), it is religious belief that is at the very heart and core of this world's problems, whether you see it or not - believe it or not.

Let's consider what religious confusion and disagreement produces. How well do Catholics and Protestants get along in Ireland? (They hate each other.) Do they believe in the same God or follow the same God? (Obviously not.) Does the Church of England or the Catholic Church recognize the same Government of God? (No.) Is Shia or Sunni correct in their representation of Allah? (They are almost worlds apart.) Or do those who follow the ideals of al-Qaeda have Allah on their side? (No.) Who is right? Who is true? Do Mormons believe in the same God as the Baptists or the Seventh Day Adventists? (No, they believe in several Gods.) Do Reformed Jews agree with the Orthodox, or vice-versa? (Absolutely Not, they breathe legalism and ritual and secretly hate each other.)

All of these believe they are true and right before God, yet their doctrines and basic beliefs are often vastly different. They do not teach about the same God because each teaches that God has taught it "truth" which is different from all others. If that were not true and they believe the same, then wouldn't they be able to join together in the same faith (belief)?

Doctrinal confusion continues as you investigate what various organizations teach as the Word of God. The Almighty God states that He is not the author of confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33), yet this world is deeply confused concerning His word, His truth and His way of life. Ever since man betrayed the Truth and established religion the world has been filled with dilemma. Confusion has reigned in the hearts of men because men willingly let it do so.

It may not be easy for you to continue reading. You may recognize and readily agree to the confusion and deception that you see in the religious beliefs of others. But when it comes to what you believe, can you admit error when it is pointed out to you? Most people cannot, because interference with one's personal religious beliefs is more

than they can bear. People instinctively defend their beliefs because they are foundational to their entire outlook on life - the core of their decision making process in all matters of life. It has been said that people are creatures of habit. God tells us that "every way of a man is right in his own eyes" (Proverbs 21:2). People are generally more comfortable when they can live their lives with a minimum of questioning and especially questions that conflict with their own pre-established beliefs. Most people simply cannot admit error in personally-held religious beliefs. When people are in error, their deeply-held prejudices make it nearly impossible for them to acknowledge that they have embraced lies from very early in life. Facing your bias will help you learn much about yourself, but many simply cannot be truthful with themselves.

This leads us to address one of the most passionate subjects of all. It is the cause of the greatest division, hatred and deception on earth. It is religion!

We are now going to delve more deeply into the "sacred" realm of personally-held religious beliefs. Questioning one's religious beliefs is highly offensive to some people. Change is rarely easy. When I started asking random people this question: "If what you believed was wrong would you want to know?" A whopping 26 said yes and 13 said no. People generally want the truth is what my private survey concludes.

It was stated earlier that this book was not being written from any influence from any of these religions of the world but simply in the pursuit of only the logical, reasonable, evidence driven truths to be found in the world. In other words, if what is observable (scientific laws that no man could know) are presented as before hand knowledge prior to mankind's own discovery then that holy text must be correct and thus established by God (seeing as how God knows about the discoveries man has not yet made). It's very reasonably imperical. Only the designer of the planet

would know such information - making statements that mankind had not yet discovered would be an obvious sign that when the time of discovery came and passed, the true God had already said it was so before we realized it. This explanation continues in Door 38 - "4,000 Year Old Science."

People do not know their roots, true identity or the true history of their existence. Just ask any "traditional Christian" about the Greek philosophy interlaced into their belief system that is allegedly "non-pagan" - watch confusion fall onto their face. To Islam, Allah is God and this God is one. Allah is the Arabic word for God and simply means supreme and only God, the creator, who according to the Quran is the same as the God of the Bible - the God of Abraham.

Those of Judaism believe that God is one but call Him by the Hebrew words of El and Yahweh. Both Islam and Judaism share the truth that the one true god is the God of Abraham, but other understanding has become deeply clouded over the centuries. Different languages do not alter the truth. If anyone refers to the one true God of eternity, who was the Allah of Abraham or the El of Abraham, then they are referring to the same one true God - the Creator of all the universe.

Both peoples have their roots in the God of Abraham, who is the one and only true eternal God. There is no other external living God. So why are their beliefs so different when both recognize they have sprung from Abraham and proclaim they follow the same God of Abraham? Well, it's good that they believe in the only God but it's bad they they don't believe in the Messiah. The Quran says the Messiah will reign seven years and die (which fits the description of what the Anti-Christ described in the book of Revelation will do) when the Old Testament (Jewish Torah) says he will come preaching, be murdered by his people, defy death

(resurrection) and the later come back to us to reign 1,000 years and never die. When all the prophecies that both books hold in regard to the Messiah's coming have already occurred, it's hard to understand what their religions are "waiting for," the anti-christ? They are still living in the past because they refuse to understand that Jesus Christ already fulfilled the prophecies they are waiting for. In the Revelation of Jesus Christ the actions of the Anti-Christ (Satan through a man) fit the description of what the Muslims believe will be the Messiah. While the Jews negate the fact that Jesus fulfilled the prophecies (because they were the ones who sentenced him to be crucified) and instead of acknowledging what "their Torah says" they overlook it and say instead that the second coming of Christ is really going to be the first. Take a look at the probability of Christ fulfilling those prophecies in the back of the book - he fulfilled 88 (which is every prophecy pertaining to the Messiah's life on earth), by the way in Greek his name equates to 888, coincidental isn't it? (See: "Is the Quran the word of God?" in Door 40 under Tough Questions to really chase down the Quran question of truth.)

There are teachings in Islam, Judaism and Christianity that clearly have their roots in the truth that originates from the God of Abraham; but as we continue, it will become abundantly clear that these major religions have strayed very far from the God of Abraham.

The true religion of the world isn't a religion at all. It's a way that simply, Is. Religion was made by man, the truth could never be made by man but rather being what simply is - the way (pre-established by God for man to follow). How do you find out about the way? You read the Holy Scriptures (the Bible). Now, by no means am I implying that you go run out and be a Baptist, Pentecostal, or Apostolic practitioner or the like. These beliefs (just like many of the other sect's that

have come out of the Bible) nearly defy stupidity and maintain nearly no scriptural authorization for their practices to even be established. Do yourself a favor, ask a "Baptist" when the last time they Baptized someone was. If your not talking to a "Baptist preacher" then the answer your going to get is "I've never baptized anyone." Then ask them, "So why call yourself 'one who baptizes' (by definition) when by your own admission, you don't?" Why emphasize baptism especially when nearly every sect of Christianity adheres to it?

The same suit goes for the Pentecostal believers: Ask one of them, "Have you ever spoken in tongues? No?" Well, then why call yourself Pentecostal? Apostolic are just too easy, they believe that they are Apostles (just like the guys in the New Testament, Paul, Peter, James, etc..) and always fail to prove the validity of their claims. You see, for an apostle to be an apostle they have to heal the lame, raise the dead, cure the blind, preform miracles as a task given to them by the power of God - it's just the definition of an Apostle. Where is an Apostle these days? Get real, as you might be thinking - just as I once did - it seems as if these people may very well be living in a fantasy land filled with popcorn and potato-tots. And you would be one too (a hypocrite living in shang ra la), if you became what they are. So don't join them.

The Bible never mentions that any of these particular "beliefs" are by themselves valid to God's intentions for us to live by anyway. At no point does the Bible say "be Apostolic", "be a Baptist", or "you must be Pentecostal." Those things, your not going to find. Nor will you find anything about being a Christian. Although later added by translators (three times) for the lack of a better word. Though these modern day names might add some spice to the lies we deal with in life they still remain unsuitable for a theological belief that cannot be refuted. What the Bible does tell you, me, and everyone willing to read rather than

"believe in a man made religion/distorted away from God's actual Words" is that: "...You shall be holy; for I the Lord your God am holy" (Leviticus 19:2). Later on saying that the "people shall be called: the Holy People", it does not say "the Apostolic people" and it never has said "the Baptist people" nor will it say, "the Pentecostal people" it says, "the Holy People." In addition to the name of the people, followers of Christ Jesus were referred to as being Disciples (someone who learns and puts that teaching into action), Believers; Saints; Brethren; People of the Way; and Jesus called them 'My Friends'.

The term "Christian" was given to the first believers residing in Jerusalem by Jews who mocked them for believing Jesus Christ is Messiah and Lord. The classification of "Christian" is nothing more than a derogatory term for a follower of Christ Jesus. Although, the word has been glamorized and widely used; the vast majority of believers in Jesus Christ fail to realize the history behind what they call themselves: "Christians." Only used in the New Testament twice, in place of the original "followers of Christ" the word "Christian" replaced those three words instead of leaving the original "followers of Christ" intact. Yes, calling a believer in Jesus a "Christian" is like calling an African American the "N" word. That is precisely what the word "Christian" meant back in the first-century and consequently what the word means today. However, many would like to change the definitions of words, although to no avail those willing to do such things only deceive themselves and only temporarily deceive the seekers.

The biggest question is, why would these various groups give themselves different titles when they all read the same book and certainly can find this very simple truth out for themselves? With this now in your knowledge, feel free to combat the ignorant Baptist's, Pentacostal's, Apostalic's, and the like of all who fail the test of hypocrisy.

It goes back to the beginning of it all: in order for there to be lies, there must first be a truth - so if truth must precede lies then what was the original concept for life? There must be one, so what is it? An encyclopedia could most certainly be established on this subject alone. As strange as an Ox doing a triple back flip off of a 12 story building into an open manhole filled with cranberry sauce is - so then is truth actually being heard. Much less being believed and followed; such a task as this dwarfs the possibility of some actually waking up on time to arrive at the dentist as scheduled for a full mouth overhaul. Furthermore, in the midst of the battle for the truth; some die trying to find it or just give up along the way - you know how devastating exhaustion can be. In no way is it being said that there is no absolute truth; because there is. While finding it is exceedingly harder than most difficulty levels deduce and demands much contemplation.

Due to the attrition made by lies; scaring the tissue of the earnest one's seeking the truth - more left it behind and adopted lies than the ones who kept searching. Confusing the rest of us, of course because they say "the right way we have!" Whatever seems to be the intentions of many of these "denominations" as they are called seem more financial than anything else. Ask yourself this question, "Did Jesus ever get paid for what He did?" So why should the pastors? A False religion can be pointed out in this way no matter what venue of teaching is subsequently involved. Truth should be f r e e.

The next time your at Walmart and see a T.D. Jakes book on the shelves, just remember that man makes everyone pay to see him at the various conferences he hosts. Twenty bucks to get the truth? That can't be how God intended His messages to be spread by his spokespersons. Then after all, they (spokespersons) may not really be representing the real God of the Bible. It is in no way surprising, that many would

use God's Word for their own means rather than letting God use them for His means.

Nearly every branch of Bible believers practice water baptism which was commanded by Jesus to be done by everyone in Matthew 28:19. Jesus made this very clear when he said: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Now, if you have ever been to a church and witnessed a baptism the probability of you witnessing a correct baptism is a probability to bet against. Nearly every church I've been to (about 26) the preacher simply repeats Matthew 28:19. Read that last line again. That's right, a modern day Mantra even in Christianity - looks like the Transcendental Meditation craze may have got the best of some preachers here. That is to say, when the preacher "baptizes" his poorly misinformed victim in no name at all but instead saying "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Arise and be clean!" These preachers are not doing what the Scriptures say at all. They don't even say the name! Furthermore, if you have no idea what the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost is - you best not be baptizing anyone; because you can't!

Instead of baptizing in the name of Jesus Christ (which is the name) they just repeat a verse as if they were Hindu or something entirely different from what they are claiming to be; "Christians." If you want to get to the real God, get baptized in His Name. Paul baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and so did Peter. It's just that simple, do what the scriptures say - not what some foolish mantra loving moron entices from repetition and an obvious lack of knowledge. Don't give them your money or your time unless your planning on helping them out with the truth about this

matter. Just a little more on baptism and then on to the next fallacy. Pentecostal believers will have us believe that baptism by "water" (which Jesus commanded) is not needed for salvation (Jesus said it was though) but instead claim to be able to baptize with the Holy Spirit. See the problem? The scriptures say that after you are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (in water) that whomever was baptized would receive the Holy Spirit. Scripture also tells us that the Holy Spirit is a gift. Meaning that it must be given. The most obvious question here is "Who has the Holy Spirit to be giving it?" God does: the obvious answer isn't it? Essentially the Pentecostal followers are telling us that they are able to do something that only God is able to do. See the problem? Yet another reason not to follow their theological errors. Would it be strange to find out that most Pentecostal believers are "afraid of water" and can't swim?

To debase the perpetual theological problems with the 164 flavors of Bible believers out there, what seems more prevalent should most likely be done. Forget all of these "wanna-be holy people." Churches popping up and claiming "We know what it means!" They can lie to their children all they want to, but I won't let them feed my cat poison or steal my mail before I start believing in their rubbish, never.

What any detective would tell you about anything that you would like to know is this: Trace back your steps. This proves to be the most helpful method to understanding what the Bible actually teaches. With one quick question and a load of history to sift through this experience will be both eye opening and highly delightful.

What did the First-Century Church believe? (They were the first to follow after Jesus so naturally the closer you get to the beginning the truth will naturally be known.)

The answer to that question will be all that follows:

Most religions and religious organizations, including most Christian denominations, teach that good people go to some sort of paradise, usually heaven, after they die. Heaven is usually characterized as a place of unsurmountable happiness - the ultimate paradise. It is commonly taught and believed that all who go there will live joyfully forever.

Yet, considering what a wonderful place it is supposed to be, it seems no one is in a hurry to go there. Death, which according to most traditional beliefs is the gateway to heaven, is generally viewed as something to be avoided at all costs. Through medical science we usually do everything we can to prevent death as long as possible. If such a journey to heaven could be by means of some heavenly express, wouldn't we find that almost no one would want to buy a ticket? Wouldn't we find that most people would prefer the continuation of their present life here on earth to any immediate possibility of taking up residence in heaven? Our actions indicate this is the way most of us think.

Perhaps the reason for the reluctance to enter the hereafter through death is that no one has ever provided us with a truly compelling explanation as to what the righteous would do once they arrived in heaven. If we are to spend all eternity there, you would think God would tell us in the Bible what we should expect once we arrive (at no point in the Bible does it say that the reward for following is "a ticket to heaven"). Will we spend our time plucking harps? Will we sit and simply gaze upon God? These are both popular concepts of heaven, but most people can't imagine doing either for eternity. Eternity after all, is a long time.

Maybe we should ask ourselves whether these common concepts come from the Bible. Many people who expect to go to heaven admit they can find little in the Scriptures about what they can expect once they get there. British historian and author Paul Johnson put it this way: "Heaven...lacks genuine incentive. Indeed, it lacks definition

of any kind. It is the great hole in theology" (The Quest for God, 1996 p. 173). If heaven is the goal God has set for His servants, why has He revealed so little about it in His Word, the Bible?

There is an excellent reason we encounter a vacuum when we look in the Bible for what the "saved" - those who are spared some sort of eternal punishment - will do in heaven. The reason is simple: The Bible does not say the righteous will receive heaven as their reward. As we will see, the Bible reveals that God has something else in mind - something far different and far superior to most people's concepts about heaven.

But heaven isn't the only problem we run into when we consider popular views of life after death. What about the unrighteous, those who don't measure up? What happens to them?

Many who profess Christianity believe the wicked will burn forever in hell. They claim to find this teaching in the Bible. But we need to ask a simple question: Would a merciful God inflict excruciating pain and torment on human beings for millions and millions of years - throughout all eternity? Could the great Creator God of the universe be that unfeeling and uncaring? Even though "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23), the God of love, justice and mercy has no desire to see anyone, even the incorrigibly wicked, suffer in agony for all eternity.

The Bible indeed says that God "has appointed a day when He will judge the world in righteousness" (Acts 17:31). At that time those who have repented and accepted Christ as their Savior will be given eternal life. "There is no salvation through anyone else; in all the world no other name [than Jesus'] has been granted to mankind by which we can be saved" (Acts 4:12, Revised English Bible).

But what will happen in that day to the hapless people who were never fortunate enough even to be exposed to that

name? Will they be cast shrieking into hell along with those who hate and despise God?

Only a minority of the earth's population lays claim to being Christian. Those who profess Christianity total only some 28 percent (adhernets.com) of the world's population. Vast numbers of the other 72 percent have never had the opportunity to genuinely repent and accept Christ simply because of where they live. Millions more through the centuries likewise never had the opportunity because of when they lived. Would it be just and right for God to subject them to the same punishment He will give to those who reject Him and make themselves His enemies? These questions are neither trivial nor hypothetical. They affect the overwhelming majority of all people who have ever lived. When carried to their conclusions, the traditional answers have sobering implications about the character, nature and judgment of the very Being Christians claim to worship. We need to face these questions squarely and honestly. Isn't it about time we examined the truth of what the Bible teaches about heaven and hell? This is the only real way to get to the bottom of what early Christians believed. Keep in mind most denominations floating around today and in your neck of the woods are no more than 100 to 184 years old. Astonishing isn't it?

Traditional beliefs about heaven and hell are based on an underlying teaching - that everyone has an immortal soul (once you are born your being can never go away but only change vessels and locations) that must go somewhere after this physical life ends.

This belief isn't unique to traditional Christianity. "All religions affirm that there is an aspect of the human person that lives on after the physical life has ended" (World Scripture: A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts, Andrew Wilson, editor, 1995 p. 225). In other words, in general all religions believe in some kind of immortal essence, a spirit

that lives on separately after the physical body dies. Most professing Christians call this the immortal soul.

Failure to properly understand this subject is a fundamental reason for the prevalent beliefs regarding heaven and hell. If an immortal quality exists in a human being, it must depart from the body when the body dies. The typical views of heaven and hell have as their foundation the belief in the immortal soul that leaves the body at death.

What does the Bible say about the existence of an immortal soul?

Does this belief have a foundation in Scripture?

Some believe that various scriptures support belief in an immortal soul. So let's consider some of these passages and understand what they really say.

"And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matthew 10:28).

Does Jesus teach in this verse that the soul is immortal? Not at all. If you look at this scripture closely you see that Jesus actually says that the soul can be destroyed. Jesus is here warning about the judgment of God. He says not to fear those who can destroy only the physical human body (Greek soma), but fear Him (God) who is also able to destroy the soul (psyche). Simply stated, Christ was showing that when one man kills another the resulting death is only temporary. God can raise anyone to life again either in this life (see Matthew 9:23-25; 27:52; John 11:43-44; Acts 9:40-41; 20:9-11) or the life to come. We must revere God, who alone can obliterate all possibility of any later resurrection of life. When God destroys one in "hell," that person's destruction is permanent.

What is the "hell" spoken of in this verse? The Greek word used here is Gehenna, which comes from the combination of two Hebrew words, ge and hinnom, meaning "valley of

Hinnom." The term originally referred to a valley on the south side of Jerusalem in which pagan deities were worshiped. Because of its reputation as an abominable place, it later became a garbage dump where refuse was burned. Gehenna became synonymous with "a place of burning" - a site used to dispose of useless things.

Only God can utterly destroy human existence and eliminate any hope of a resurrection. The Scriptures teach that God will burn up the wicked, turning them to ashes (Malachi 4:3).

Let's just say that you are trying to access a word document on your computer. You try opening up the file but the computer prompts you and says "The file you are trying to open is corrupt." What do you do? The first thing that should come to mind is: try to save it. After attempting to save the corrupted file the only option you have is deletion. Same scenario with God. We messed up, he saved us only if we will accept His salvation - but if we don't accept His salvation (continued life) that pardoned us from being corrupt; He will delete us from existing altogether. It's just the way it is.

Many are surprised to learn that the words "immortal" and "soul" appear together nowhere in the Bible. "...Theologians frankly admit that the expression 'immortal soul' is not in the Bible but confidently state that Scripture assumes the immortality of ever soul" (The Fire that Consumes, Edward William Fudge, 1994 p.22). That such an important assumption should not be explicitly taught in the Bible is surprising, considering how confidently theologians hold to this doctrine. If it isn't found in the Bible, where did the idea originate?

The New Bible Dictionary offers this background of the non biblical nature of the immortal-soul doctrine. "The Greeks thought of the body as a hindrance to true life and they looked for the time when they should be free from its

shackles. They conceived of life after death in terms of the immortality of the soul..." (1996, p.1010, "Resurrection").

According to this idea, the body goes to the grave at death and the soul continues to exist as a separate conscious entity. Belief in a separate soul and body was popular in Greek society and was taught by one of their most famous philosophers. "The immortality of the soul was a principal doctrine of the Greek philosopher, Plato...In Plato's thinking, the soul...was self-moving and indivisible...It existed before the body which it inhabited, and which it would survive" (Fudge, p.32).

When did this concept of immortality of the soul enter the world of Christianity? The Old Testament does not teach it. The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia explains: "...We are influenced always more or less by the Greek, Platonic idea that the body dies, yet the soul is immortal. Such an idea is utterly contrary to the Israelite consciousness and is nowhere found in the Old Testament" (1960, Vol. 2, p.218, "Death"). It is crystal clear that the first-century Church did not hold to this belief, either. "...The doctrine is increasingly regarded as a post-apostolic innovation, not only unnecessary but positively harmful to proper biblical interpretation and understanding" (Fudge, p.24). If such an idea were not in place in the Church during the time of the apostles, how did it come to assume such an important place in Christian doctrine?

Several authorities recognize that the teachings of Plato and other Greek philosophers have profoundly influenced traditional Christianity. Jeffery Burton Russell states: "...The unbiblical idea of immortality did not die but even flourished, because theologians...admired Greek philosophy [and] found support there for the notion of the immortal soul..." (A History of Heaven, 1997, p.79).

The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible, in its article on death, states that "the 'departure' of the nephesh [soul]

must be viewed as a figure of speech, for it does not continue to exist independently of the body, but dies with it...No biblical text authorizes the statement that the 'soul' is separated from the body at the moment of death" (1962, Vol. 1., p. 802, "Death").

Should we then accept a teaching that is unbiblical? Many people take it for granted that their doctrines are based on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the Bible. Yet Jesus said in a prayer to His Father, "Your word is truth" (John 17:17). Does God give men the liberty to draw from the world's philosophers and incorporate their beliefs into biblical teaching?

God inspired the apostle Peter to write: "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:20-21). We must look to the words of Christ, the prophets and the apostles in the Holy Scriptures if we are to understand the truth about the doctrine of the immortality of the soul or any other religious teaching.

The Old Testament teaches that the soul dies. In Genesis 2:7 we find that when Adam was created he became a "living soul" (King James Version). In Genesis 9:12 the same Hebrew words are translated "living creature" and refer not to humans, but to every sort of animal distinct from man. God told Adam and Eve, two "living souls," that they would "surely die" if they disobeyed Him (Genesis 2:17). God also told Adam that He had taken him from the dust of the earth and he would return to dust (Genesis 3:19).

In the Old Testament, man is referred to as a "soul" (Hebrew *nephesh*) more than 130 times. The term is also applied to sea creatures (Genesis 1:20-21), birds (verse 30) and land animals, including cattle and "creeping" creatures such as reptiles and insects (verse 24). It follows, then, if we make an argument for man possessing an immortal soul, animals

must also have an immortal soul, since the same Hebrew word is used for man and animal alike. Yet no biblical scholars would seriously make such claims for animals. The truth is, the term soul refers to any living creature (whether man or beast), not to some separate, living essence temporarily inhabiting the body.

Among the plainer statements in the Bible about what happens to the soul at death are Ezekiel 18:4 and 18:20. Both passages clearly state that "the soul who sins shall die" (emphasis added). Not only do these scriptures show that the soul dies, but the soul is identified as a physical being - not a separate spirit entity having existence independent of its physical host.

The Scriptures tell us that the dead do not have consciousness. "For the living know that they will die; but the dead know nothing ..." (Ecclesiastes 9:5). They are not conscious in some other state or place.

The New Testament contains several statements that confirm that the wicked will die - permanently. In Matthew 7:13-14, in exhorting His disciples to choose the way that leads to life, Jesus states that the end of those who do not choose life is destruction. He contrasts that path with the way of righteousness, telling us "narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it." The apostle Paul also stated that the wicked will die. In Romans 6:20-21 he talks about those who were slaves of sin and says that for them "the end of those things is death." So those who are slaves of sin, who habitually commit sin, can perish completely.

Romans 6:23 is one of the best-known verses of the Bible. Yet many people either overlook what it plainly says or read into it an entirely different meaning. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." This verse plainly tells us two crucial truths. First, the punishment of the wicked is death, not a life of eternal

suffering in another place. Second, we do not already have eternal life. It is something God chooses to give us. We see from this verse that a fleshly human being has nothing about him that is immortal; God must give eternal life to us through our Savior, Jesus the Messiah. In 1 Timothy 6:16 Paul also tells us that God alone has immortality. Paul makes a similar statement in Galatians 6:8 "The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the spirit will reap eternal life." (New International Version) This tells us what happens to sinners. Eventually they will "reap destruction," but those who obey God will ultimately revive eternal life and live forever.

In Philippians 3:18 Paul speaks of those who are "enemies of the cross of Christ." Verse 19 says that their end is destruction, not eternal torment in another life after death. Finally, in 2 Thessalonian 1:9, Paul emphatically declares that the wicked will come to a complete end: "These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord..."

So is man an immortal soul, or does he have an immortal soul?

The Bible clearly states that man puts on immortality at the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:50-54), not at the end of his physical life. Until that time man has no more permanence than animals.

...::The Great Big Lie About Hell : : - -

Take this simple test. Or, on second thought, perhaps it's better if you just imagined it, since the test could prove quite painful. Light a match, then hold your finger in its tiny flame for five seconds. What happens? You'll likely scream

involuntarily and suffer misery for several days from a painful burn.

Perhaps you've seen a burn victim who was disfigured in some horrifying accident, his flesh gnarled and misshapen. Imagine walking into flames that would char and burn away your skin in the same way. What would that kind of agony feel like for a minute? For a year? For a lifetime? Most people find the idea appalling almost beyond imagination. They would understandably be appalled that anyone might willingly torture another person in that way. Why, then, are so many willing to accept the idea that the God they worship and hold in high esteem would willingly inflict such punishment not on just a few, but on a great multitude of people who die every single day? How can such a belief possibly square with the Bible's description of a God who is infinitely loving and merciful?

The traditional view of hell as a fiery cauldron of punishment has been taught for centuries. Perhaps the first to expound this view among Christians was Tertullian, who lived around 160-225 A.D. In the third century Cyprian of Carthage also wrote: "The damned will burn for ever in hell. Devouring flames will be their eternal portion. Their torments will never have diminution or end" (Peter Toon, *Heaven and Hell: A Biblical and Theological Overview*, 1986, p. 163).

This view has been officially reintegrated over the centuries. An edict from the Council of Constantinople (modern Istanbul) in 543 states: "...Whoever says that the punishment of demons and the wicked will not be eternal... let him be anathema [forever accursed]" (D.P. Walker, *The Decline of Hell: Seventeenth-Century Discussions of Eternal Torment*, 1964, p.21).

The Lateran church council in 1215 reaffirmed belief in everlasting punishment in these words: "The damned will go into everlasting punishment with the devil..." (Toon, p. 164). The Augsburg Confession of 1530 reads: "Christ will

return...to give eternal life and everlasting joy to believers and the elect, but to condemn ungodly men and the devils to hell for eternal punishment" (Toon, p. 131).

Teachings on the subject of hell have by no means been consistent through the centuries. Belief about hell have varied widely, depending on which theologian's or church historian's ideas one reads. Generally speaking, the most common belief has been that hell is a place in which people are tortured, but never consumed, by ever-burning flames.

Hell's location has been a subject of much heated debate. Some have held the idea that it was in the sun. For centuries the common view was that hell is inside the earth in a vast subterranean chamber. The most comprehensive description of hell as a place, as man commonly views it, is found not in the Bible but in the 14th-century work *Divine Comedy*, written by the Italian poet Dante Alighieri. Dante described an imaginary journey through hell replete with its fiery sufferings.

The popular concept of hell is a mixture of small bits of Bible truth combined with pagan ideas and human imagination. This has produced many misguided calculations into what actually happens to the 'wicked' after death.

A more modern interpretation rejects the idea of physical torment and asserts that the torture of hell is mental anguish caused by separation from God. A recent survey of modern attitudes revealed that 53 percent of Americans embrace this perspective (U.S. News & World Report, 2007, p.47). Pope John Paul II "declared that hell is 'not a punishment imposed eternally by God' but is the natural consequence of the unrepentant sinner's choice to live apart from God (ibid., p.48). Still others have rejected the doctrine of hell outright and believe everyone will be saved. And if that were the case then what's the point in following anyway?

Why is there so much diversity in the teachings about hell? The reason is that, like the belief in the immortality of the soul, common misconceptions of hell are rife with the ideas of men rather than the teachings of the Bible.

Is it possible to reconcile this view of a God who terrorizes people with the fear of eternal torment in hell with the compassionate and merciful God we meet in the Bible?

God is a God of love who does not want any to perish (2 Peter 3:9). He tells us to love our enemies (Matthew 5:44). "He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust" (verse 45). Yet traditional view of hell would have us believe that God vengefully punishes His enemies through all eternity.

The idea that God sentences people to eternal punishment is so repulsive that it has turned some away from belief in God and Christianity. One such example is Charles Darwin. In his private autobiography he wrote: "Thus disbelief crept over me at a very slow rate, but was at last complete...I can indeed hardly see how anyone ought to wish Christianity to be true; for if so, the plain language of the text seems to show that the men who do not believe...will be everlastingly punished. And this is a damnable doctrine" (Paul Martin, *The Healing Mind: The Vital Links Between Brain and Behavior, Immunity and Disease*, 1997, p. 327).

The problem is not that the Bible teaches this "damnable doctrine" but that men have misunderstood what the Bible says. Other aspects of the traditional teaching of hell simply offend the senses. One such belief is that righteous people, who are saved, will be able to witness the torments of the wicked. "...Part of the happiness of the blessed consists in contemplating the torments of the damned. This sight gives them joy because it is a manifestation of God's justice and hatred of sin, but chiefly because it provides a contrast

which heightens their awareness of their own bliss" (Walker, p.29).

This scenario is especially revolting for several reasons. According to such twisted reasoning, parents would inevitably witness the suffering of their own children and vice versa. Husbands and wives would see unbelieving spouses tortured forever. Worst of all, the doctrine paints God as sadistic and cruel.

What is the truth about hell? What does the Bible teach? Many are surprised to learn that the Bible speaks of three hells - but not in the sense that is widely believed. Let us see why there is so much confusion about hell.

In the original Hebrew and Greek languages in which the Bible was written, four words are translated "hell" in English. The four words convey three different meanings. The Hebrew word sheol, used in the Old Testament, has the same meaning as hades, one of the Greek words translated "hell" in the New Testament. The Anchor Bible Dictionary explains the meaning of both words: "The Greek word Hades...is sometimes, but misleadingly, translated 'hell' in English versions of the N[ew] T[estament]. It refers to the place of the dead...The old Hebrew concept of the place of the dead, most often called Sheol...is usually translated as Hades, and the Greek term was naturally and commonly used by Jews writing in Greek" (1992, Vol. 3, p.14, "Hades, Hell").

Both sheol and hades refer to the grave. A comparison of an Old Testament and a New Testament scripture confirm this. Psalm 16:10 says, "For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption." In Acts 2:27 the apostle Peter quotes this verse and shows that it is a reference to Christ. Here the Greek word hades is substituted for the Hebrew sheol.

Where did Christ go when He died? His Spirit returned to God (Luke 23:46; Ecclesiastes 12:7). His body was placed in a tomb belonging to Joseph of Arimathea. The two passages

in Psalms and Acts tell us Jesus' flesh did not decay in the grave because God resurrected Him. Many scriptures that use the term hell in the King James Version are simply talking about the grave, the place where everyone, whether good or evil, goes at death. The Hebrew word sheol is used in the Old Testament 65 times. In the King James Version it is translated "grave" 31 times, "hell" 31 times and "pit" three times.

The Greek hades is used 11 times in the New Testament. In the King James translation in all instances but one the term hades is translated "hell." The one exception is 1 Corinthians 15:55, where it is translated "grave." In the New King James Version, the translators simply used the original Greek word hades all 11 instances.

The other Greek words are translated "hell" in the New Testament. One of these is tartaroo, used only once in the Bible (2 Peter 2:4), where it refers to the place where the fallen angels, or demons, are restrained awaiting their judgment. The Expository Dictionary of Bible Words explains that tartaroo means "to confine in tartaros" and that "Tartaros was the Greek name for the mythological abyss where rebellious gods were confined" (Lawrence Richards, 1985, "Heaven and Hell").

Peter used this reference to contemporary mythology to show that the sinning angels were "delivered...into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment." Fallen angels are in a condition or place of restraint awaiting their ultimate judgment for their rebellion against God and destructive influence on humanity. Tartaroo applies only to demons. Nowhere does it refer to a fiery hell in which people are punished after death. The third Greek word used in the Bible and translated "hell" is gehenna. This does refer to a fiery punishment for the wicked - but not in the manner portrayed in the hell in men's imagination. Gehenna refers to a valley just outside Jerusalem. The word is derived from the Hebrew

Ge-Hinnom, the valley of Hinnom (Joshua 18:16). At the time of Jesus this valley was what we might call the city dump - the place where garbage, trash and refuse (defecation) were thrown and consumed in the fires that constantly burned there. The carcasses of dead animals - and the bodies of despised criminals - were also cast into Gehenna to be burned. Jesus used this particular location and what took place there to help us understand the fate the wicked and unrepentant will suffer in the future.

In Mark 9:47-48 Jesus specifically referred to Gehenna and what took place there. But, without proper historical understanding, many people draw erroneous conclusions. Notice His words: "It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell [gehenna] fire - where 'their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.'" Any inhabitant of Jerusalem would have immediately understood what Jesus meant, since Gehenna - the Valley of Hinnom - was just outside the city walls to the south.

Without this understanding, people commonly hold several misconceptions about this verse. Some believe the "worm" is a reference to pangs of conscience that condemned people suffer in hell. "'The worm that dieth not' was nearly always interpreted figuratively, as meaning the stings of envy and regret" (Walker, p. 61). Many believe that the phrase "the fire is not quenched" is a reference to ever-burning fires that torture the damned.

This is not so. This scripture has been notoriously interpreted out of context. Notice that the phrase "'their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched'" appears in quotation marks. Jesus is quoting from Isaiah 66:24. A proper understanding of this verse begins there. The context in Isaiah refers to a time when, God says, "all flesh shall come to worship before Me" (verse 23). It is a time when the

wicked will be no more. What happened to them? In verse 24 we read that people "will go out and look upon the dead bodies of those who rebelled against me; their worm will not die, nor will fire be quenched, and they will be loathsome to all mankind" (NIV).

Notice that in this verse Jesus noted that the bodies affected by the worms are dead. These are not living people writhing in fire. When Jesus returns He will fight those who resist Him (Revelation 19:11-15). Those who are slain in the battle will not be buried; their bodies will be left on the ground, where scavenging birds and maggots will consume their flesh.

According to the Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament (1980), the original Hebrew word translated "worm" in Isaiah 66:24 and Mark 9:47-48 means "worm, maggot, [or] larvae."

Neither Isaiah nor Christ was talking about immortal worms. The vermin of which they spoke - maggots - do not die because they turn into flies. The flies then lay eggs that hatch into more maggots (the larvae of flies), perpetuating the cycle. This background information helps anyone interested in the true identity of hell to understand the alarming implications of the many "false teachings" in regard to this subject. This research allows for a better understanding of Christ's words. In that time, when the bodies of dead animals or executed criminals were cast into the burning trash heap of Gehenna, those bodies would be destroyed by maggots, by the fires that were kept constantly burning there, or a combination of both. Historically a body that was not buried, but was subjected to burning, was viewed as accursed (Joshua 6:18; 7:11, 25).

What did Jesus mean in Mark 9:48 when He said, "...The fire is not quenched"? With the preceding background we can understand. He means simply that the fire will burn until the bodies of the wicked are consumed. This expression, used several times in Scripture, refers to fire that consumes entirely (Ezekiel 20:47). An unquenched fire is one that has not been extinguished. It burns itself out when it consumes

everything and has no more combustible material to keep going.

But, we might ask, when does this punishment take place?

As we saw earlier, Jesus quoted from the prophet Isaiah, who wrote of a time after the Messiah establishes His reign on earth. Only then would all humanity "come and bow down" before Him (Isaiah 66:24, NIV). Only then would this prophecy be fulfilled. Jesus used a common site of trash disposal in His day - the burning garbage dump in the Valley of Hinnom outside Jerusalem's walls - to illustrate the ultimate fate of the wicked in what the Scriptures call a lake of fire. Just as the refuse of the city was consumed by maggots and fire, so will the wicked be burned up - consumed - by a future Gehenna- like fire more than 1,000 years after Christ returns (Revelation 20:7-9, 12-15). Peter explains that at this time "the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up" (2 Peter 3:10). The implication is that the surface of the earth will become a molten mass, obliterating any evidence of human wickedness.

What will happen after that?

The apostle John writes: "Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea" (Revelation 21:1). The entire earth will be transformed into a suitable abode for the righteous who will, by that time, have inherited eternal life. Another place where Jesus spoke of gehenna fire is Matthew 10:28. "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell [gehenna]" (Matthew 10:28). We should notice that Jesus did not speak of people suffering

everlasting torment. He said that God can destroy - annihilate - both the body and the soul in Gehenna.

Jesus explains that, when one man kills another, the resulting death is only temporary because God can raise the victim to life again. But, when God destroys one in hell (gehenna), the resulting death is eternal (they never come back to life ever again). There is no resurrection from this fate, which the Bible calls "the second death." The Bible explains that unrepentant sinners are cast into the lake of fire, or Gehenna (hell), at the end of the age. "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death" (Revelation 21:8).

As discussed earlier, the wicked will be destroyed. They will not live for eternity in another place or state of everlasting anguish. They will reap their destruction in the lake of fire at the end of the age. They will be consumed virtually instantaneously by the heat of the fire and will never live again. Read that last line again.

Another passage that graphically illustrates the utter destruction of the wicked is to be found in the book of Malachi. "'For behold, the day is coming, burning like an over, and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up,' says the Lord of hosts, 'that will leave them neither root nor branch'" (Malachi 4:1)

The time setting is the end, when God will bring retribution on the wicked for their rebellious, reprehensible ways. To those who surrender to God and live in obedience to Him, God says: "'You shall trample the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I do this,' says the Lord of hosts" (verse 3). The clarity is crystal clear.

God, speaking through the prophet Malachi, makes clear the ultimate fate of the wicked. They are not being stuffed into a

toaster, nor are they dropped into a fryer and left frying forever, but instead burning up completely to return to living never again. Keep in mind, those who bear this fate choose it. They will be consumed by the flames of the lake of fire, leaving only ashes.

The Bible does teach that the wicked will be punished by fire - but not the mythical hell of men's imagination. God is a God of mercy and love. Those who willfully and willingly reject His way of life, characterized by obedience to His law of love (Romans 13:10), will die, not suffer forever. They will be consumed by fire and forgotten. They will not be tortured for all eternity, nor will God grant His priceless gift of eternal life to those who persist in rebellion against Him.

It's actually the perfect theological system (keep reading if you disagree). Even the final death of the incorrigibly wicked in a lake of fire is an act of justice and mercy on God's part (who wants Adolf Hitler around anyway?). To allow them to continue to live on in unremorseful, eternal rebellion would cause themselves and others only great sorrow and anguish. God will not grant them eternal life, neither will He torture them for all eternity. The encouraging truth of the Bible shows that God is indeed a Being of great mercy, wisdom and righteous judgment. As Psalm 19:9 tells us: "The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

As shocking as what has been said thus far may seem, it gets even more marvelous when investigating the many "lies" in traditional Christianity continues. Relief came over me once these imperical facts came up to my discovery. This is not "unknown" information. This is not "mysterious fiction" or rantings of a disgruntled postal employee. Rather anyone can find out what you have just learned if the itch that curiosity so often accompanies with feverish information excavation does dwell within the discoverer's bones.

Of course, the "churches" would disagree with the facts (and they rightfully should, that would affect their business and

devastate their income). They have obviously taken a dogmatic approach in their "doctrinal statements" (which are just a list of things certain organizations believe the Bible teaches). Nearly all are incorrect, and teach an inferior theology. You see, in finding the true God, the theology behind that God has to be perfect for all situations. We'll get to that later.

First, consider "church." The ontology of the word has changed dramatically throughout the centuries. From it's beginning there was no real-estate. The "church" was simply the believers in Christ Jesus the Messiah. They met in homes, lived in common. Literally every day was a spiritual experience. It all started in Jerusalem in 30 A.D. In the beginning there were 120 believers, then in one day it shot up to 3,000. This all happened so fast that it shook Jerusalem to it's foundation. The believers faced a problem, they were in a city as tourists for the Pentecost celebration and then found themselves converted (believing in Christ) - being hundreds of miles away from home and not wanting to leave their newly founded brothers and sisters behind, they stayed. Utilizing the "sell all for Christ's sake" mentality because after all He gives you eternal life and material objects can't do that (What would you sell: Christ or your backpack?) Following the most intelligent path of decisions they began renting out houses (60 or more living in one house!) and pooling all their money into one pot which supplied everyone with everything they needed.

Gradually some got jobs, and instead of keeping the money for themselves they put it together for grocery money. And so on. No huge buildings, no steeples.. just the people. In this way it spread from 3,000 to over 20,000 in less than 17 years. That was, and always has been the church. The people, are the church. There was no trinity that they believed in. There was no place of eternal torment either. Certainly there was no trace of Mary or Saint worship, which runs deep in modern day Catholicism. None of these things

were what the First-Believers in Christ believed. There was no heaven where people plucked harp solos out all day. They knew the true Kingdom of God wasn't that at all. They knew the truth about it all. There was simply none of the rubbish that is currently floating around in the present "man made" teachings regarding imaginary "truths" that allegedly many claim the Bible teaches.

Christ, Jesus Christ was what they were all about. The apostles never preached about the Scriptures. They didn't give lectures on Isaiah 12:22. No, they didn't read the Scriptures at all!

Here are the facts. Approximately eighty percent of the people who lived in the Roman Empire could not read or write. So at least eighty percent of the believers of the first century couldn't possibly have studied the Scripture. Add to this the fact that the overwhelming majority of believers were from among the poor, almost none of whom could read, and the percentage of illiterates in the first century church goes even higher. (The idea that Bible study is an absolute necessity to the Christian Life is so entrenched in the mentality of the twentieth-century believer that to question it is almost an invitation to be burned at the stake. Nonetheless, the fact remains that the early church got by very well without ever engaging in Bible study... twentieth-century style. This fact is indisputable.)

Today well over 90% of the followers of Jesus Christ can read, yet it would be fair to say that 88.888% of that score of believers have no idea of how to walk in a deep experience of Christ.

Of course, in addition to that, the first century had no printing presses. Do you realize what that means? All copies of Scripture were made by the agonizingly painful, incredibly slow, and terribly expensive process of hand copying. A city was fortunate if it had one complete copy of the sacred Hebrew writings. Furthermore, about the only

place that Scripture was available was in the synagogues - and those synagogues simply were not all that excited about making their scrolls available to followers of Jesus Christ. In fact, those synagogue members wanted to eradicate the followers of Jesus Christ.

It is an indisputable fact that in every place the early church met it had virtually no access to Scripture. No, dear reader, those Apostles weren't standing up there teaching Bible studies for eight years. (In fact, some of them couldn't read either.) Nor will you find the 3,000 believers sitting around, later in the day, in little Bible study classes.

They didn't hang up some long wall chart and give lectures on the Scroll of Ezekiel or on "Eyeballs and Bears Tails in the scroll of Daniel." What is more, the saints gathered in Solomon's Porch would have thrown olive pits at the Apostles if they had tried. The believers had poured into that shed to hear one thing and one thing only. And the Apostles were interested in talking about one thing and one thing only.

What was that?

You can answer that question yourself. If you could go back to that day and be a new convert, and if you could actually sit at the feet of the original twelve Apostles, what would you want to hear?

Or put it another way. If you had just spent four years, eighteen hours per day, living with God, what would you talk about? The twelve Apostles talked about Jesus Christ! Night and day. That's all you got out of them: Jesus Christ. They originated the whole idea of the topic of Jesus Christ, hence the gospels (Good News). They couldn't have thought of anything else to talk about if they had tried. The cutting-edge of today's Christianity is "know the Scripture." This idea enshrouds today's thinking. It is the first and the main thought introduced to all new believers. This all-dominating idea has held first place for the last 200 years - long enough

to have been tested and to have brought forth the fruit it is supposed to have produced (and it has failed wretchedly).

Dear reader, if you ever really get to know the Lord in a deep, abiding experience, it will suddenly dawn on you that teaching doctrines was something invented by men who just didn't know the Lord all that well. Men who really know Christ well, will talk about Christ. Men who don't... they teach all sorts of interesting, unimportant things. May you be a man who daily, deeply, profoundly meets and experiences the Lord. Then you'll talk about the same thing the Apostles did.

Do present day churches reflect this same nature?

A large portion of money given by God's people these days is being spent for church buildings. Should you examine the budgets of typical urban churches, you will discover that 50-80% or more of the weekly incomes are being spent for this purpose. Don't stop with the mortgage payment; add to it the cost for janitorial and maintenance salaries, insurance, electric, water, etc. The conclusion one comes to is that these institutions are mere real estate!

Churches in the United States now own in excess of \$102 billion in land and buildings. I am not attacking the "church buildings" in any way but revealing the statistics. Churches will spend over \$200 million this year alone simply to pay the interest on church mortgages. This profit by bankers from churches represents an investment which is several million dollars more than the amount to be invested by those churches for all home and foreign mission causes. The churches are spending more money on themselves than they are with the whole purpose Jesus gave them. Spread the Gospel. They are giving more of their collective incomes to paying the salaries of the bankers rather than their own world missionary force! Simply stating it: drop the buildings. Meet in homes just as the first believers did. Use the money

saved to finance more missions. This is the only logical conclusion to be made in the future of the church.

All of this would be disturbing even if they were growing in impact because of their brick and mortar holdings. A recent poll indicates religion in America is losing ground five times faster now than in 1987. Their "BUILDINGS" are not impressing anyone!

Change. Will it happen? No. There is just too much money to be made. T. D. Jakes, a prominent preacher is now one of the "super-rich" and yet does nothing but charge people to get the message of God. People using God to get rich? Is this right? What do they do with their wealth? T.D. Jakes has several million dollar weekend villas courtesy of his exploitation of God and the Holy Scriptures. Let's not even get in to what he drives. I know what you may be thinking - and NO, Jesus did not want T.D. Jakes to drive a Porsche. Jesus wants Jakes to spread the word of God (the real Word of God). Does he feel good about all this? Oh yes, Jakes is ecstatic.

Don't feel disheartened. He simply doesn't know Christ, just like those people who run into the "church buildings" around your neck of the woods. They probably don't know Christ either. Even though their assets increase, their ardor wanes. The church's most dynamic century occurred when it spread the Gospel and that it didn't have time to waste in raising money for bricks and mortar. Its members raised money instead to aid the poor Christians in Jerusalem and to support their worldwide missionary outreach.

The Church (people) were more fruitful when they did not build buildings but instead succeeded with the goal of saving others with the Gospel when they wandered from city to city spreading the news. Ask any "church goer" what the meaning of church is today and they will certainly confuse it

with a building. Jesus came building a people. He never built a building for people to congregate in every Sunday.

Modern-day "attempts at worship" follow this course: Read a list of what they are to do while there. Sing two songs, listen to a 25 minute lecture, give a donation, sing three more songs then leave. No, that's systematization (You can't put your Lord into a system). That's religion! The first believers (church) was sporadic, moving from place to place - spreading the good news! "Hey everybody, let me tell you how you can live forever!" That's what they did! No buildings, no system, just Jesus!

With these grand buildings they still manage to distort the Scriptures even more and more. As time continued from the beginning of the church - the ideas and theology became more obscured from it's original foundation. Continue further, their lies you too, shall know.

_...::The Great Big Lie About Heaven : : - -

Just a little background first and some of the most common misconceptions before we go to disassembling the present lies enshrouding what the Bible actually teaches about heaven.

- 1> "*Heaven is what you make of your life now.*" One of these is the simple statement that heaven or hell is what you make of life right here on earth. This asserts that you make your own heaven; you make your own hell. A Hollywood actor once stated that he didn't necessarily believe that heaven and hell occur in another life. He thought they were happening now. What a tragic display of ego to think that any of us is big enough to create our own heaven or hell; heaven is not created by man, but

for man. It is not the apex of his present existence; it is the residence for his eternal existence. Man does not earn heaven; he enters it.

- 2> "*This life is an extension of heaven.*" A second misconception some have about heaven is that it is merely an extension of this life, it is only located somewhere else. In their understanding, nothing changed but the location. If this is true, who needs a heaven? Let's simply regain access to the tree of life and live forever right here. Heaven isn't an actual place.
- 3> "At least when I die, I'll finally get to rest." The third misconception is that heaven is a place of inactivity. Many people - including most Christians - believe that its inhabitants will sit on fleecy clouds, strum harps, and sing hymns. It will not be a time of "eternal rest," a perpetual vacation. Man was made for activity, not inactivity. Perpetual leisure has always been destructive to men. Heaven will be a place of rest and activity. In heaven we will: Enjoy eating and drinking (but don't have to eat or drink to live) (Isaiah 25:6; Luke 14:15; 22:30; Revelation 2:7) -Enjoy the beauty of God's creation (Ezekiel 47:7, 12; Revelation 22:2). Observe animals (Isaiah 65:25). Build houses and plant crops (Isaiah 65:21). Sing, play music, and worship before God's throne (Isaiah 51:11; 66:22-23; Revelation 14:2-3).

Heaven will be a place where we can rest from our labors as well as rest in God's provision. We will be rid of our fears, anxieties, pains, strife, and griefs. There will be no more tears there. We will also be able to do some things that most of us only dream of being able to do, but this will be covered much later.

- 4> "*Heaven will be one long praise and worship service.*" A fourth misconception is that heaven is a place of perpetual praise and worship - one continuous watch night service for billions times billions of eons. I admit that heaven is filled with praise, but as I noted above, it is also filled with activity in addition to this worship. There is probably no greater delight than to know that not only will we sing to God, but we will also listen as He sings over us (Zephaniah 3:17). That will be the most beautiful sound of all...
- 5> "*We will experience all the pleasures of Earth with none of the negativity.*" Another misconception about heaven is that it is a place of sensual pleasure. People who believe this see heaven as a place where inexhaustible sensual appetites are being gratified continuously and to their ultimate level. This is a commonly held belief among Muslims. According to the Quran, those who go to heaven will have virgins and experience sexual pleasures (Sura 56:35-38). But we know that we will not have sex in heaven. How do we know that? We will not marry or be given in marriage (Matthew 22:29-30). God ordained marriage and sex within marriage so that we would procreate (Genesis 1:28; Psalm 128:3) and so that we would enjoy relational intimacy between a husband and a wife. Thus, in heaven, we will experience the deepest levels of intimacy in our relationship with Christ.

- 6> "*When I get to heaven, I'll know everything.*" A sixth misinterpretation of heaven that I have heard Christians express is that heaven is a place of complete knowledge, as if all the wisdom of the ages is going to be imparted to them by osmosis: "When I get there, everything I ever wanted to know will be made known to me. I'll merely absorb it from the presence of God." If this is so, then why does God put such a premium on our learning while still here in this life? (See Proverbs 2; 3; 18:15.) In Revelation 6:10, the martyrs ask God a question, and in the next verse He answers them. This proves that some things we won't know; otherwise, why would these martyrs ask God a question if they knew everything?
- 7> "*In heaven, our bodies will be ghostly figures.*" There are others who believe the term "glorified bodies" signifies that we will have translucent bodies and will travel around like disembodied spirits. If that were true, then why did Jesus appear as flesh and blood after His resurrection? (See Luke 24.) In heaven we will have incorruptible bodies that will not be subjected to death and decay (1 Corinthians 15:52-54). If these views and others that are equally weak and unscriptural, are so common among today's Christians, then we can better understand why there is so little excitement about going to heaven.

It's time to get to the bottom of what the Bible really teaches about Heaven...

Is the reward of the righteous an eternity in heaven? It seems 78 percent of Americans believe it is (National

Review, Nov. 2004). Through the centuries this has been the hope taught by traditional Christianity.

What would going to heaven be like? What would we do when we got there? How does the Bible describe heaven?

Beliefs about heaven as the reward of the saved have varied considerably through the centuries. Traditional pictures of heaven typically show an entrance with a rainbow arching over it, often marked by a bridge of gold or glass. Peter is usually represented as the doorkeeper. The inhabitants are shown accompanied by angels, or they may appear as angels themselves, having apparently sprouted a pair of wings.

Another common view in the popular consciousness has the inhabitants walking among the clouds plucking harps. The decor of heaven often features jewels, stars, candles and trumpets. These ideas may represent views of the classical heaven as envisioned by artists, but men have had other ideas about what they think heaven may be like. Theologians and philosophers have adapted their concepts through the centuries, influenced by the society around them.

"Monks and friars, depending on whether they felt more at home in the countryside or in the city, preached a heaven defined primarily in terms of environment" (Colleen McDannell and Bernhard Lang, "Heaven: A History," 1988, p. 108). In other words, religious teachers, depending on their own experiences and preferences, have foreseen an urban paradise or something more rural. "Heaven became a city...or the visionary experience of celestial castles. Accounts of the other world resonate with descriptions of golden streets, jeweled buildings, and richly dressed residents" (ibid.).

Men of the Renaissance era envisioned a spicier paradise. "In its boldest form, the new technology envisioned heaven as a place of erotic human love in the bucolic setting of a comfortable natural landscape" (ibid., p. 112).

The relationship the heavenly inhabitants might have with God has been debated. A modern author describes the interaction with God this way: "There the saints shall eternally, without interruption, feast their eyes upon Him, and be ever viewing His glorious perfections" (John MacArthur, "The Glory of Heaven," 1996, p.221). Others believe that, if this is all they are to do forever, heaven may prove to be a boring place. As one writer put it, the prayer of many could be: "Please God, don't take me to heaven yet...I haven't even been to Hawaii!" (MacArthur, p. 49). The modern Christian concepts of heaven present a diverse landscape. Another writer said: "I have a theory that heaven will offer faithful Christians whatever they sacrificed on earth for Jesus' sake. My mountain-climbing friend who intentionally lives in a slum area of Chicago will have Yosemite Valleys all to himself. A missionary doctor in the parched land of Sudan will have her own private rain forest to explore" (Phillip Yancey, "What's a Heaven For?," Christianity Today, 1998).

For many the most important aspect of heaven is the opportunity to see their loved ones again. "By far the most persuasive element of the modern heaven for many contemporary Christians is the hope of meeting the family again. Countless 'in memoriam' sections of newspapers throughout Europe and America reflect the belief that families parted by death will be reunited" (MacDannell and Lang, p. 309). God does have a plan that will reunite loved ones, as we will see. But the popular ideas of heaven fall short of capturing the majesty of God's plan.

The popular belief is that a good person goes to heaven immediately when he dies (this is a Greek lie). But for the traditional Christian things aren't quite that simple. According to this view, the body goes to the grave, but the soul ascends to heaven.

The Westminster Confession of Faith, written in the 17th century, states, in part: "The bodies of men after death return to dust, and see corruption; but their souls, (which never die nor sleep,) having an immortal subsistence, immediately return to God who gave them. The souls of the righteous, being then made perfect in holiness, are received into the highest heavens, where they behold the face of God in light and glory, waiting for the full redemption of their bodies."

The question that anyone should ask to really give validity to their beliefs, for many remains unspoken and never thought of. Question the text from which the belief is derived. Ask: Does this concept agree with the Bible? Do the scriptures state that righteous people go to heaven when they die?

David, the king of Israel and author of many of the Psalms, whom God called "a man after My own heart" (Acts 13:22), did not go to heaven at his death. The apostle Peter, speaking under God's inspiration, stated: "Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day" (Acts 2:29). He then added that "David did not ascend into the heavens" (verse 34). David is included in Hebrews 11:32 among those who died in faith, and in verse 39 David is one of those of whom it is said: "And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise." They did not go to heaven as soon as they died. Beginning to wonder why they believe otherwise? Isn't it extraordinarily clear how their dogmatic position is entirely incorrect?

Jesus, speaking about 1,000 years after David's death, said "No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man..." (John 3:13). This means that Abraham, Moses, David, the prophets and all

other righteous men and women who lived before Christ's first coming did not go to heaven. They were buried in the grave as David was.

The view that a person's soul goes to heaven at death - though held by many in good faith - cannot be found in the Bible. It results from a misunderstanding of Scriptures and confusion over what the Bible does teach about the resurrection.

Theologians widely acknowledge that the Bible speaks of a resurrection, even if they're not sure what it means or when it takes place. The most common view is that at the resurrection the body rises to be reunited with the soul in heaven. But, as we pointed out earlier, the concept of the immortality of the soul - the soul as existing as something apart from the body - is not biblical. It takes its origins from the Greek philosophers rather than the writers of the Bible.

We might pose this question: If it were true that at the resurrection the body is to rise to be united with the soul in heaven, why would God do things this way? (Seems illogical doesn't it?) What purpose would the resurrection serve then? Why keep the body in the grave? If the righteous go immediately to heaven at death, why wouldn't God send the complete being - soul and body - to heaven simultaneously, instead of keeping the soul and the body apart through the ages? Or why even have a resurrection? If the soul goes immediately to heaven, why bother with bringing bodies back to life?

The inescapable fact is that, according to popular teaching about heaven, there is no logical reason for the resurrection. Why is there confusion about how the resurrection fits with the traditional view of heaven? Perhaps it is because support for the idea of going to heaven at death is not found in the Bible. (They lied to us.)

Many people believe they will go to heaven because Jesus spoke repeatedly of the Kingdom of Heaven. In Matthew 5:3 He said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Three other verses in Matthew 5 refer to the faithful entering the kingdom of heaven. The phrase Kingdom of Heaven appears in the book of Matthew a total of 32 times.

However, note that Matthew is the only biblical writer who uses the term kingdom of heaven. Other Bible writers use the term Kingdom of God. For example, Luke, in recording the same event describes above, records Jesus' words as: Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God" (Luke 6:20). The terms are interchangeable. The term Kingdom of God is used 69 times in the New Testament, mostly in the Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Jesus did not tell His disciples they should expect to go to heaven. He spoke instead of a kingdom originating from God in heaven that is to be established on the earth at His second coming. Notice Jesus' explanation that He would come to join His followers on earth at His return rather than have them ascend to heaven to be with Him where He currently resides.

After Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, He spent 40 days teaching His disciples, instructing them about the Kingdom of God (Acts 1:3). After He joined His Father in heaven. Let us notice the instruction His disciples received after He rose into the sky.

"Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven'" (Acts 1:9-11). Jesus spoke repeatedly of His return to establish the Kingdom of God on

earth (Matthew 25:31-34; Luke 21:27-31). He will return to earth and establish His Kingdom here - not in heaven. In what is commonly called the Lord's Prayer, He instructs His followers to pray to their heavenly Father, "Your Kingdom come" (Matthew 6:10; Luke 11:2). That kingdom is the true goal of every follower of Christ. (Matthew 6:33); we are to pray for its arrival.

In Luke 19:12 Jesus spoke of Himself in a parable, comparing Himself to "a certain nobleman [who] went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return." The "far country" is His Father's dwelling place, which is in heaven. Jesus will bring the Kingdom of God to earth at His return.

Matthew sometimes refers to it as the "kingdom of heaven" because it is a kingdom of heavenly, divine origins. Notice also that it is called the kingdom of heaven and never referred to as a kingdom in heaven.

One Old Testament prophet is specific about Jesus' return, telling us exactly where He will arrive back on earth to establish His Kingdom. "And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east...And the Lord shall be King over all the earth" (Zechariah 14:4, 9).

The incident we read about in the book of Acts that describes Jesus' ascension tells us that it was on the Mount of Olives that He last talked with His disciples, and it was from the same mountain that He rose into the clouds in their sight. He will return to the same mountain to begin His reign in the Kingdom of God.

In Matthew 5:5 Jesus tells us, "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." This verse and many others describe the saints ruling on earth in God's Kingdom. For example, Revelation 5:10, speaking of the resurrected saints, says: "You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth" (NIV). The reward of the saints is eternal life in the Kingdom of God. This will

be given to them when Christ returns, but, as we have seen, Jesus will reign with them on the earth rather than in heaven.

"If a man dies, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14). This question has intrigued the minds of men from ancient times to our day. In the Bible God inspired the patriarch Job not only to pose this important question but to give us the answer. Responding to God, Job said: "All the days of my hard service will I wait, till my change comes. You shall call, and I will answer You; You shall desire the work of Your hands" (Job 14:14-15). Job affirmed that the dead will live again through a resurrection.

Other passages in the Old Testament also affirm the resurrection.

Daniel 12:2, for example, prophesies of a time yet future when "many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake..." But the way to eternal life was not fully understood in those days. It remained for Christ to come and fully reveal the truth. Jesus said: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live" (John 11:25).

It is through Christ that we can experience our own resurrection from the dead. "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22).

The teaching of the good news of the resurrection - that man can escape the power of the grave - set Christianity apart from other first-century religions and philosophies. Among Jewish sects the concept of a resurrection was a subject of controversy. Some dogmatically denied that the dead would rise, and others said that they would (Acts 23:8).

The world in which Jesus lived, besides being Jewish, was heavily influenced by the culture of the two empires - Greek and Roman - that had successively dominated the region for several centuries. The Greek and Roman religions held little hope for the dead. "The old Greek belief, and its Roman

counterpart, held that once the body was dead the disembodied soul lived in a miserable twilight existence...Sadness, silence and hopelessness seemed to brood over the life after death...Death was to men of those days the ultimate disaster" (J.B. Phillips, "Ring of Truth: A Translator's Testimony," 1967, pp. 40-41).

The New Bible Dictionary affirms the dreary outlook of the day and tells us that the resurrection of Christ gave men more than a glimmer of hope. "The most startling characteristic of the first Christian preaching is its emphasis on the resurrection. The first preachers were sure that Christ had risen, and sure, in consequence, that believers would in due course rise also. This set them off from all the other teachers of the ancient world...Nothing is more characteristic of even the best thought of the day than its hopelessness in the face of death. Clearly the resurrection is of the very first importance for the Christian faith" (New Bible Dictionary, 1996, p. 1010, "Resurrection").

It was the riveting truth of the resurrection of Jesus the Messiah that launched the New Testament Church. Preaching on the day of the Church's founding, as recorded in Acts 2, the apostle Peter thunders the good news:

"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know - Him, being delivered by the determined counsel and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; who God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it" (Acts 2:22-24).

The news of the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth traveled like a shock wave through the land. Jesus' disciples were galvanized into action and began to preach with zeal. What had been regarded as a band of renegade Jews soon grew into the thriving Church.

In its early days the Church grew by thousands (Acts 2:41; 4:4). The young Church (the believers in Christ not buildings) spread hope - hope of eternal life through the resurrection. The disciples taught under God's inspiration that all who accept Jesus as their personal Savior, repent, are baptized and revive the Holy spirit will be resurrected (compare Acts 2:38 and Romans 8:11).

The resurrection that the disciples expected was not some sort of substandard half-life such as the Greeks and Romans believed lay beyond the grave. The disciples were called to "take hold of the life that is truly life" (1 Timothy 6:19).

Jesus had told them before He was crucified, "Because I live, you will live also" (John 14:19). Jesus had also shared with His disciples His intention for all of mankind: "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). The abundant life of which Christ spoke reaches its full realization in the resurrection from the dead.

The first-century world held numerous conflicting ideas about life after death. Pagan philosophies had clouded the understanding of most people. Our situation is similar. If not the same. In the Western world a significant number of people believe nothing lies beyond the grave. Atheism and agnosticism have left their marks. The world needs to hear and understand the original resurrection message of Christ and the apostles. Many people, like those of the ancient world, are anxious about the matter of death. The truth of the resurrection proclaimed by God's Word can counter the anxiety and hopelessness inherent in any approach that excludes God.

Speaking of the return of Christ and the accompanying resurrection of the faithful, Paul encouraged believers to "comfort one another with these words" (1 Thessalonians 4:18). The truth of the resurrection provides comfort for our natural anxiety about death. Why should we believe in a

resurrection from the dead? We should take heart because the resurrection is a biblically and historically confirmed fact.

After being executed and entombed, Jesus' body disappeared, and even His enemies who wanted to refute His resurrection could not explain away the empty tomb. Jesus' resurrection was confirmed by many witnesses - including on one occasion 500 people (1 Corinthians 15:6). Peter, speaking on behalf of all the apostles, proudly proclaimed, "...We are His witnesses to these things" - to the fact that "the God of our fathers raised up Jesus" (Acts 5:30-32).

Years later Paul similarly documented that "God raised Him from the dead [and] He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are witnesses to the people" (Acts 13:30-31). The apostles and other members of the early Church gave their lives as willing martyrs for this truth.

Getting into the perfection of the Theology behind the God of the Bible.

> These facts are known and understood by many Bible readers. What is not clear to many is that the Bible describes more than one resurrection. The writings of the apostles Paul and John both confirm this truth. In 1 Corinthians 15:22-23, Paul wrote: "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. But each one in his own order: Christ the first fruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming." The reference to the first fruits indicates that other fruits are to follow. Paul specified that God has set an order in His plan by which He will bring up everyone in a resurrection. Not everyone will be resurrected at the same time.

Those who believe that people go to heaven or hell at death have been troubled at the indications they see in Scripture that comparatively few will be saved. They frequently base this assumption on such passages as Matthew 7:13-14:

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

In these verses Jesus explains what happens in "this present evil age" (Galatians 1:4), in which God is not calling everyone to be converted now. We read in Revelation 12:9 that Satan "deceives the whole world." John wrote, "We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one" (1 John 5:19).

Mankind as a whole is deceived - for the time being. Jesus said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:44). Jesus plainly indicated here that only certain ones will be in that resurrection - those who are specifically called by God. The Bible teaches that in this particular age - the age preceding the return of Christ - God is calling only a small portion of mankind to enter and partake of His Kingdom. As the population of the earth is now, is almost how it was (the minds and hearts of the people) "in the days of Noah." For this reason, very few will be called. With an increase in wickedness there is a consequential decrease in righteous people.

...:: The First Resurrection

The resurrection of those who are called now - the ones Paul referred to as first fruits - is further described in the 20th chapter of Revelation.

Notice how John describes that resurrection of the first fruits: "I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their

foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection" (Revelation 20:4-5, NIV). Notice that some are resurrected at the beginning of the 1,000 year reign of Christ - at "the first resurrection." The use of the term first shows that at least one more resurrection must follow.

...:: Another Resurrection

That same verse explains, "The rest of the dead will not come to life until the thousand years were ended." There is another resurrection after the first, and in this resurrection others will have the opportunity to receive salvation. They will be called to understand God's truth and His plan during a period sometimes referred to as the "great white throne" judgment (verse 11).

This time of judgment is further described in verse 12: "And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their words, by the things which were written in the books."

Those resurrected in this group have never completely understood the truth of God. Consider that the majority of all people who have ever lived have never heard God's truth. Rather than such people being condemned to eternal suffering in a fiery hell, the truth of the Bible is much more comforting and encouraging. God will extend the opportunity for eternal life to everyone (if you have heard of Jesus Christ, then that is your opportunity for eternal life)- to a relatively few in this age but to billions of people in the coming second resurrection.

Judgment is much more than a final decision to reward or condemn. Judgment is a process that takes place over time

before a final decision is rendered. Those brought to a temporary, physical life again in this resurrection (see Ezekiel 37:1-14) will, for the first time, have their minds opened to the truth of God's plan. They will have the opportunity to decide whether they will accept and follow God's instruction or not. After coming to see the truth, they will be judged according to their response to their new understanding. Many will accept that truth, repent and receive God's gift of eternal life.

Jesus spoke of this time when He said even the sinners of the long-destroyed city of Sodom would have the opportunity to repent in a future judgment. As He sent His disciples out on a mission to preach the gospel (Matthew 10:9-14), He told them that some they would encounter would reject their message. Of these Jesus said, "Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city" (verse 15).

That there is room for tolerance in that day toward Sodom and Gomorrah shows they will have the opportunity to repent and enter God's Kingdom. This is because, when they formerly lived, they either never had opportunity to know God or His way or never fully understood what they heard. The time for their calling and judgment is yet future. This is not a second chance for salvation. This will be their first chance - their first opportunity to act on a clear understanding of God's truth.

In a similar example, Jesus said the long-dead people of the ancient Assyrian city of Nineveh and the biblical "queen of the South" from Solomon's time would rise alongside those from Christ's generation. The people from those generations had lived and died many centuries earlier, never having understood the true God of His plan to offer eternal life through His Son Jesus the Messiah.

That God will offer salvation to all who lived and died in all ages without ever really knowing Him shows His great mercy toward all people. This is precisely what traditional

Christianity teaches against. Their version of God is not fair, nor just, and without mercy - negating the very definition of God which is Perfection (in all things). When dealing with God, if any circumstance or situation that any person may fall in to we must consider the perfect approach for the fairness of the situation and whether it is just or fails to be. God cannot be God if God is not fair. If God is not fair then God can't possibly be Just. So, with the traditional Christian teachings of God (which originates from the Bible but is driven by man's own imagination) being not the true representation of what the Bible teaches. What would accompany a perfect God would be a perfect theology. That is what your now reading.

God does not show partiality (Romans 2:11). He calls all at the time that is appropriate for them, and all eventually will be given the same wonderful opportunity to receive His gift of salvation. The traditional teaching is wrong. Believing what a man invents is believing in a man. For true seekers of God, we should only seek His words, and His truth. No man will suffice.

_...:: Evidence of a Third Resurrection

Other scriptures indicate that a third group will be resurrected just before the final destruction of the wicked in the lake of fire. (Note: You will find that the majority of "Church Buildings/Ministers" do not teach this. The Bible does, so why don't they?)

Jesus explained that some would deliberately and knowingly despise the spiritual revelations that God would open their minds to understand. These, He said, will not be forgiven "either in this age or in the age to come" (Matthew 12:31-32).

Yet "all who are in the graves will hear [Christ's] voice and come forth..." (John 5:28). Even those who will not be

forgiven are to be resurrected from the dead.

This group will include only those who have deliberately rejected God's way of life even after they have been "once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit" (Hebrews 6:4-6). These few are people who were once forgiven and converted but later chose to reject the Holy Spirit and priceless knowledge God gave to them.

Because they "trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace," for them "there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries" (Hebrews 10:26-29). God has revealed that the ultimate fate of the incorrigibly wicked is to be burned up. "'For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up.' says the Lord of hosts, 'That will leave them neither root nor branch'" (Malachi 4:1).

Therefore destruction in the lake of fire (Revelation 20:13-14) must include those few who stubbornly refused to repent of their own self-willed rebellion in spite of all the opportunities God made available to them.

When all this is finished we read: "Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death" (verse 14). The judgment of God is complete. Those who are saved will never again have to fear death. Those who refused to live are completely annihilated - taken out of existence forever.

_...:: Your Awesome Future

In light of these biblical truths, where does that leave us? As we have seen, the beliefs of people about the nature of

heaven and hell have ranged over a broad - and confusing - spectrum. But there is one thing on which we all should agree: We shall all die. Indeed, "the living know that they will die" (Ecclesiastes 9:5).

The prospect of death has hung over the heads of mankind as long as men have existed. When people are gripped by the fear of death, they are enslaved in a cruel and unforgiving bondage.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary summarizes how the truth of the resurrection, personified in the resurrection of Christ, transformed the outlook of many: "In the first century this [fear of death] was very real. The philosophers urged people to be calm in the face of death, and some of them managed to do so. But to most people this brought no relief. Fear was widespread, as the hopeless tone of the inscriptions on tombs clearly illustrates. But one of the many wonderful things about the Christian gospel is that it delivers men and women from this fear... They are saved with a sure hope of life eternal, a life whose best lies beyond the grave" (Leon Morris, 1981, Vol 12, p.29).

The Bible reveals that the best that man can experience lies beyond the grave. It shows us that converted Christians will inherit eternal life at the resurrection and that death will never again lay a claim on them.

"So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory'" (1 Corinthians 15:54).

The life to come will be vastly superior to this present temporary existence. It will be a life abounding in both purpose and pleasure. "In your presence is fullness of joy: at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore," wrote David (Psalm 16:11). Let us catch a glimpse of what awaits those who receive eternal life through the resurrection.

We can know in general terms what we will be like in the resurrection because the Bible tells us we will be like the

resurrected Jesus. "The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven... And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man" (1 Corinthians 15:47,49).

We learn that in the resurrection we will take on the same image, or likeness, that Christ has. Paul tells us that true Christians will "share the likeness of his Son," who is "the eldest among a large family of brothers" (Romans 8:29). Did you catch that? We will be Jesus' brothers and share His likeness. Though Christ has eternally existed and we have not, we will be elevated to a plane so high that we are called children of God and brothers of Jesus Christ.

The apostle John confirms these same two truths, that we will be children of God with the same glorified form as Jesus Christ. "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us," he writes, "that we should be called children of God" (1 John 3:1). And in 1 John 3:2 he tells us, "we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

We will possess a glory that is so great as to be compared to the glory of Christ (Romans 8:16-18), though we will never equal Him. He is the one Son of God who has always existed, superior to all but the Father.

What is the glory of Christ like?

During His physical ministry on earth, He gave three of His disciples a preview of His appearance in this glorified spiritual state. "He was transfigured... His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light" (Matthew 17:2).

Years later, at the writing of the book of Revelation, John saw a vision of the resurrected, glorified Christ. Notice how John describes His awesome appearance: "His hair was as white as snow-white wool, and his eyes flamed like fire; his feet were like burnished bronze refined in a furnace, and his

voice was like the sound of a mighty torrent... His face shone like the sun in full strength" (Revelation 1:14-15).

This language describes Christ, the glorified Son of God, as being of great brilliance. We, too, will share that dazzling appearance that He had when He existed in the flesh. Early on the morning after He rose from the garden tomb, Mary Magdalene visited His grave. When she saw the tomb was empty, she began to weep (John 20:11).

Then "Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?' She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, 'Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away'" (verses 15-16). Jesus appeared to Mary as a normal human being rather than in His radiant state. She mistook Him for the gardener, possibly because it still may have been dark at the time (see verse 1). On another occasion Jesus appeared from nowhere inside a closed room where His disciples were meeting. "And after eight days His disciples were again inside... Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, 'Peace to you!'" (John 20:26). After His resurrection Jesus was able to pass through solid barriers - such as the walls of a building or the stone enclosure of His tomb.

Like Jesus, when we are changed to spirit we will not be limited by the laws that govern physical things. With the ability to simply materialize, we will not be subject to the speed restrictions that physical objects are. As part of this change we will not need to eat to survive, but apparently will have the option of eating for pleasure and fellowship if we choose. In two of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances He shared a meal with His disciples (Luke 24:28-30; John 21:9-15).

Those to whom God gives eternal life in the resurrection will forever possess these supernatural characteristics. Notice the description of the resurrection in the book of Daniel: "Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake:

some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever" (Daniel 12:2-3).

As renewed individuals with incorruptible bodies and additional abilities such as materializing (just as Jesus did), not to mention never needing water or food to sustain our lives but instead simply being empowered by God Himself with the gift of eternal life - we, contrary to popular misconceptions will not sit passively by and do nothing for all eternity. Such levels of boredom defy holiness altogether. Jesus was busy with His work on this earth, so why should we think that we will be sitting on couches for all eternity?

Jesus said, "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent" (John 17:3). We will spend eternity with God in His environment - the world of spirit and all power. We will not sit idle in our new life. We will be positively occupied. Jesus said, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working" (John 5:17).

When Christ returns to establish the Kingdom of God on earth, those in the first resurrection will serve as judges (Revelation 20:4) and priests (verse 6) and will "reign on the earth" (Revelation 5:10). We will not go to heaven to live passively and idly.

Jesus will return to a world that has largely destroyed itself by living in opposition to the commands of its Creator. He will teach people to obey God's laws. He will begin a massive reeducation process to help people unlearn their old ways of doing things and for the first time learn to do things God's way. This dear reader, is the essence of a perfect theology. One which is entirely fair which means that the God behind it all is entirely perfect. This is precisely what the Bible teaches.

Notice Isaiah's prophecy of this future rule of Jesus as Messiah and King over the earth: "Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, 'Come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (Isaiah 2:2-4). This has not been fulfilled - but soon shall be. At that time Christ will teach all people who have not known God's way. He will be assisted by all who are changed into glorified sons of God in the resurrection at His return (Luke 20:36). This dear reader, is what the Bible teaches and what is the absolute truth regarding justice and what it is to be fair. If one person never knew that they could receive a gift of eternal life, then by definition that one person out of trillions demonstrates the attitude of unfairness. However, not a one will be left without the knowledge of the God. The truth of God all will know. If we enter that new life we will be endowed with unlimited energy. As members of God's family we will be empowered by God's Spirit. As Isaiah describes it: "The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary" (Isaiah 40:28).

Speaking of the event that will change our mortal bodies, Paul wrote: "The sun has a splendor of its own, the moon another, splendor, and the stars yet another; and one star differs from another in brightness. So it is with the resurrection of the dead: what is sown as a perishable thing is raised imperishable. Sown in humiliation, it is raised in glory; sown in weakness, it is raised in power; sown a

physical body, it is raised a spiritual body" (1 Corinthians 15:41-44).

God will give us bodies that will never tire nor grow ill - and minds having the kind of supernatural abilities He has. Reigning with Christ (Revelation 2:26; 3:21), we will help bring about worldwide peace. We will assist in spreading the knowledge of God to the most distant lands in a reeducation process that will span the globe. "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:9).

Those changed at Christ's return will include all who are alive in Christ at His return and the dead who were called, repented and lived in faithful obedience to God. It will include all of the faithful of Hebrews 11 who "died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth" (Hebrews 11:13).

Those who died in faith include Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (verses 17-21) of course there are other but these are the examples the Scriptures give us. The promise they have not yet received is the promise of the Kingdom of God. As Jesus said, "...I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 8:11). Remember that the Kingdom of Heaven is synonymous with the Kingdom of God, which Christ will establish on earth at His return. The terms are interchangeable.

You can be among the many who arise from all parts of the world in the resurrection to be with Christ in His Kingdom - if you respond to God's invitation. God is issuing that call through the preaching of the gospel, which includes the information you are reading now. That calling is not being offered to everyone in this age is what many claim. However

this seems incorrect compared with the high rates of salvation occurring throughout the world. Let's just take the time to examine just how BIG the Kingdom of Heaven is...

...:: The Dimensions of The Kingdom of Heaven

While man may have the technology to suspend a space station in orbit above Earth's atmosphere, such an object isn't large enough to be even a scale model of God's New Jerusalem (The Kingdom of Heaven). This suspended city is more than large - it is outrageously gigantic. Well, at least it is monstrous by our standards of comparison, but I suppose that in God's eyes it is miniature, for God tends to do things on a very large scale. Consider His sidereal heavens. As man has developed more and more powerful instruments with which to explore the myriad stellar systems around us, he has discovered more and more of these systems. It now seems that space is an endless expanse of galaxy after galaxy of God's handiwork. (For more on space see Cellar Door 38 with the title 4,000 Year Old Science.)

Even in the creation of God's angelic servants, the Word speaks of an incalculable number of them, and when God created man, He did so on an expanding pattern of reproduction that now seems to be multitudinous (and thus, typically uncalculable as well). Usually God's "normal" is viewed by us as a "miracle." His proportions, patterns, and provisions are so far beyond us that He explains, "For as the heavens are higher than the earth so are my ways higher than your ways" (Isaiah 55:9).

Since this is so, we would expect that any city God built would be colossal. And it is! We are told that the city is a cube 12,000 furlongs in each dimension: length, breadth,

and height (Revelation 21:16). Since a furlong is 582.5 feet (or approximately one-eighth of a mile), this translates to 1,500 miles in all directions. If this city were set on United States territory, it would extend from the northernmost tip of Maine to the southernmost point of Florida, and it would reach from the Atlantic Ocean to the Colorado River. If it were placed over the European countries it would cover all of England, France, Germany, Italy, eastern Europe, and half of Russia.

In Jonah's day Nineveh was considered a massive city, for we are told that Jonah had barely begun to enter it after traveling a full day's journey beyond the outside walls. But by comparison, this heavenly city would make Nineveh look like a small housing development. Imagine a city 1,500 miles from city limit to city limit. There are few countries in the world that exceed these dimensions of 2,250,000 square miles. But that is only the measurement of the first level, for John declare that the city was as high as it was wide. It is not a square; it is a cube. Imagine a high-rise apartment building or a skyscraper that was 1,500 miles tall - but this is an entire city built layer upon layer, mile after mile, to this total height. Walls and streets made of pure gold. Alchemists have tried for centuries to purify gold but have relentlessly failed. Pure gold is transparent. Just like glass, you can see right through it.

Since we are specifically told that there are streets in this city, let's assume that they are laid out on a square grid at one-mile intervals (which is far less frequent than in any city on earth). This grid would give us 3,000 streets per level, each one 1,500 miles long for a total street length of 4,500,000 miles per level. If we assume that each level of this New Jerusalem (The Kingdom of Heaven) will be one mile above the preceding level, there could be as many as 1,500 of these levels, thereby giving the city over 6,700,000,000 miles of roads - all made with pure gold. Even the jasper walls that surround the first level are either one-

half mile high or wide, whichever dimension is meant. The foundation that would be required for a city of this mass, built of gold, would have to be so strong that nothing on earth would do. The very weight of the Kingdom of Heaven would crush the crust of our globe, so God (naturally) chose to hang the city in space, just as He has suspended all of His worlds. In order to scale down the magnitude of such a mammoth city, some writers have suggested that it is in the shape of a pyramid, while others say it is only square with a very high mountain in the middle of it. But John, who saw it said it was a cube (Revelation 21:16), and I would rather trust the word of an eyewitness than the theory of a skeptic. I must admit that these dimensions for a city stagger the imagination, but everything God has ever done has been beyond our belief until some man was able to see it either by faith or by fact. John did not write from a concept of faith but from the experience of participation. He was there. He watched it being measured and recorded the figures for the rest of us.

But why is the city so large? When God created this world we now live in, "he formed it to be inhabited" (Isaiah 45:18). Surely, then, He would not lavish all this splendor and spaciousness upon this eternal city without knowing that sufficient numbers of men and women would embrace His salvation to fill it. Is it not likely that our concept of the redemptive program of God is too small? We tend to overemphasize the "little flock" concept and almost automatically take the position of being a minority group. But God has built a permanent residence for His redeemed people that could accommodate nearly twenty-eight billion people if each resident were given a quarter mile of territory, and certainly no city would have lots this large. Assuming for lots per square mile, this would give each piece of property over 2,500 feet of depth and a total of nearly 7 million square feet. Here on earth, any area that has less

than five people per square mile is considered nearly uninhabited. Even barren Iceland boasts fifty-five persons per square mile; some of our more densely populated areas, such as Malta, have over twenty-six hundred people per square mile; both the Netherlands and South Korea have about nine hundred fifty persons per square mile, we're grossly understating its capacity. If heaven is to be populated as the Netherlands now is, it would have over thirty trillion (30,000,000,000,000) people!

This city isn't large in order to accommodate the angels; they will continue to live in the Father's house where the New Jerusalem was constructed. It isn't this big to take care of years and years of procreation, for Christ stated that in heaven we will be as sexless as the angels - there will be no procreation there.

When Christ returns and casts Satan into the lake of fire and the unrighteous dead are raised, judged, and also cast into this lake as well and they are burned into non-existence forever, the new heaven and earth replace the old. Then this marvelous and mammoth New Jerusalem will descend down from God's abode to take its place in orbit over this world. There will be far more people who have been ransomed and redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ than we have expected, and there will be room enough for all of them.

Early in the book of Revelation John saw "a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues...before the throne, and before the Lamb [Jesus], clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and [they] cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb" (Revelation 7:9-10). Now this multitude has a home, for heaven has been built to the dimensions necessary to properly house the number of inhabitants that God is expecting, and that is an innumerable throng, all of whom are members of God's family.

Heaven is not a solitary, fleecy cloud where a saint will play harp solos; it is a city (that will come down) filled with happy people busily engaging in the activities of God and enjoying social fellowship with other members of the family.

God's goal was to have fellowship with man. He made man in His image. Sin destroyed that fellowship, but God's plan didn't change. God still desires fellowship. No work of God has ever failed, and His program of redemption won't be a failure either; for He has never failed.

...:: Your Awesome Future Continued

Jesus told His disciples that the understanding of God's truth is not yet available to many: "...It has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given" (Matthew 13:11).

The Bible speaks in several places about God's "elect" people. They are called to understand these things now, in this present age (of whenever they lived), but the rest - the vast majority - will not be called until later. Notice that all will eventually be called. Most of Israel, God's people spoken of extensively in the Old Testament, were not called to understand the Kingdom of God during their lifetimes. Their hearts were hardened, their minds blinded. But the opportunity for most of them will come in the second resurrection. "Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded" (Romans 11:7).

Yet, as Paul explains in this same chapter, the time is coming when "all Israel will be saved, as it is written: 'The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob'" (verse 26). God's calling is carried out according to His timetable. When all is said and done, His plan is entirely fair for everyone. He gave us the intelligence to understand such things for this very purpose.

Peter explains that those who now become a part of His Church are chosen in this age to receive salvation in the first resurrection. Peter says of them, "...You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

The good news is that God eventually will offer eternal life to everyone who repents. He desires that everyone enter His Kingdom. He wants to share this opportunity for eternal life with everyone (2 Peter 3:9).

In a final, breathtaking view of what God has in store for those who serve Him, the apostle John was inspired to write this glimpse of the future in Revelation, the last book of the Bible: "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away...He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son" (Revelation 21:4,7).

The future God has planned for us is fantastic beyond belief! It is far superior to the fanciful heaven of men's imagination. God will share the real future with all who repent and turn from their sins. As for those who willfully refuse to repent, they will not suffer forever in hell. They will simply cease to be. But this need not happen to you nor anyone for that matter.

You may share in the eternal Kingdom of God if you heed the words spoken by Jesus when He began His ministry: "The time has come. The Kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" (Mark 1:15, NIV).

...:: What to do about it?

It really adds up to confusion, doesn't it? But the bottom line is that you, and you alone, are accountable for what you

believe. Only you can decide for yourself what is true and what is false. To do so, you must be truthful with yourself about your long-held religious beliefs; and most of all, you must be truthful to God because, as your Bible says, "...no lie is of the truth" (1 John 2:21). This should be obvious if a person genuinely seeks to be truthful. If some doctrine or belief in God is a lie, then by its very definition it cannot be true or from God.

Why so many refuse to believe in what the Scriptures say is simply because they don't know what the Scriptures (Bible) teaches. Plainly said, yet statistically accurate. Not to mention that when adopted by individuals the tendency to become lost in "doctrines" is clearly why so many "back-slide." You see, Jesus never gave us a "religion" but rather He came giving us the "truth," this being the most priceless gift of all. Men, over time have turned the truth Jesus taught into a religion. Did you catch that?

So many are guilty of making the One True God into their own image that it has caused the rest of us to become so overloaded with even the thought of "truth" most of us just give up. Sad, but true. At this point you may be wondering what must I do, or where can I find a real body of believers to worship with. Don't worry, those things are nice to find, and lovely to attain - you don't need them. "Worship in spirit and in truth" Jesus said, so in that we all must do. As with any group of peers to lean on and get encouragement from, finding true believers would help you stay strong in your faith - so seeking them would be a wise idea, but first seek God.

Repent. Be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Worship in spirit and in truth. Seek God. Despise wickedness. Pray for those who persecute you. Help all who ask of you. Give to those who beg from you. And just be Happy, you are friends

with God who is with you always! What more could you ask for? Why fear anything, God is with you.

Out of every theology that I have thoroughly examined and researched for countless months, contemplating authenticity, seeing theological holes in the systems and discovering the fallacies of many religions. It is with great understanding that I give to you the Best God out of ALL religions. That this God meets more attributes than any other theology that presents qualities of their alleged gods. The God of the Bible, the Lord is the highest elevated God that is spoken of on earth. There is no other god than He. No other theology describes a god as powerful and mighty as the God of the Bible.

What to do now? Take the name of Jesus Christ and obey it. Seek Him out, "He will be found of you." And most important - speak your heart out to Him. His communication with you will never leave you.

Your adventure will begin when you believe that God loves you! Look to Jesus! God's Word says "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Confess your sins to Jesus. Believe Him. There is nothing you have done that Christ will not forgive if you ask Him to forgive you. Repent, turn to Jesus now and throughout each day. Talk with Him as with a friend. Pray - Prayer is talking to God as to a friend. Ask Him to live in your life daily. And daily read His Word, the Bible, in a translation you can understand.

_.. -::[[[]] Taking Secrets Away from Societies [[[]]::-

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))The Exploding Door((

Do they have some kind of enlightenment to answer all of life's questions? What secrets do they keep for themselves? Are they out to control the world? Who are they? Is the true purpose of being held by them? Is the order where I can find god? Would it be better not to know about these organizations?

The Illuminati is said to be a global secret society that has been operating for centuries. A hidden brotherhood that includes some of the world's most influential people. People of all races and religions that hold top positions in government, churches, business, education, science, medicine, military, financial and charitable institutions. A secret fraternity whose sole purpose is to take over control over the entire world's resources, finances and its people. If such a powerful secret society does exist: it represents the ultimate threat to the free world. In fact it means that right now there is actually : no free world : at all .. .

Some say that it's impossible, or just too unbelievable to be true; but the evidence and history of the organization lay claim to the proof that the existence of the organization and its goals are unfortunately not "fictional", but rather - regrettably true. Not only does the Illuminati exist, they have infiltrated two of the most powerful intelligence agencies in the world, the U.S. Government and the former

Soviet Union. What is even more frightening is that devastating weapons have indeed been hidden in our country, and others for future use, all in the name of bring "order from chaos" to ultimately lead to the concluding goal of the organization, total domination : perfect power. The members of these brotherhoods and orders literally worship power and the secret knowledge they think gave them this alleged power. As with any empire or sect of like minded people determined to control others lives, paychecks, religion, and freedom there is always a component that works consistently against those in control, the never-ending beauty of information. It's a key to wisdom in political understanding that fortunately enough, this basic concept that emperors, kings and governments throughout history have provided us to understand : "Absolute power corrupts absolutely."

How could this happen? To get to the truth we must first explore the dark reaches of the world's secret societies whose history, rituals, and very existence are shrouded in mystery.

]] The door has been opened.. [[

Secret societies have existed for thousands of years, almost since the beginning of time - the oldest being the Order of the Snake. They all have one thing in common, unique knowledge, which they swear by oath to keep secret. For armed with the knowledge limited only to themselves they believe they can control others. One of the earliest secret societies still exists today, the Freemasons. It is believed that its origins date back to ancient Egypt when only a

select guild of stone workers possessed special mathematical knowledge necessary for building the pyramids. Throughout history Masons kept their methods to themselves so that only they could build the great structures throughout time that still stand today. First the pyramids and on to great castles and cathedrals of Europe, but secret societies were not limited to tradesmen.

The word "Assassin" has its roots in a secret brotherhood of Shiite Muslim warriors that controlled northern Syria during the time of the early crusades in the 11th century. The specialty of the society is that they held the secrets to the "art of killing". The sect was founded by Hassan Shabah called "The Old Man of the Mountain" who ruled from a remote stronghold. Hassan indoctrinated his devotees with a promise that if they fought and died for Allah they would live forever in paradise full of heavenly and earthly pleasures. He used the gruesome power of torture and murder to give his teaching special impact and ensure complete discipline and devotion. Hassan gave "hashish" to his fanatical disciples to induce a feeling of invincibility before sending them on suicide missions. Hence the name "Assassin" was derived from the word "Hashashin" or hashish user. By 1100 the Assassins were said to number over 70,000 highly devoted members.

About the same time in history another secret brotherhood was created: The Templars, a division of the Prior de Zion (Priory of Zion), was a chivalrous fraternity created in medieval France with the purpose of preserving the Merovingian blood-line and returning them to the throne of France. Their official headquarters was the abbey of Notre dome de Monte de Zion in Jerusalem. In 1117, Baldwin the first King of Jerusalem found himself greatly indebted to the Prior de Zion for their services in helping him obtain the throne by way of the sword. In return, the king negotiated the constitution of the "Order of the Knights Templar" as the military and administrative arm of the Prior de Zion. The

Knights Templar had been created ten years before for the purpose of safe guarding pilgrims on the road to the holy land. During their time in the Middle East the Templars had contact with the Muslims, including the Assassins. In fact, after the crusades because of the enemies they had in common the Assassins took refuge among the Templars. Imprinting the Christian soldiers with much of their fanatical and deadly ideas. As the Templars developed they became not at all an Orthodox Christian organization but their secret rituals and doctrine were much more mystical, heretic, and occult oriented.

As the power of the Templars grew, the brotherhood developed into a Church within the Church. Handling their own banking, revoking ex-communications issued by bishops and they answered only to the Pope. As it turns out, this massive propulsion into Europe's most wealthy and most elite fighting force has a huge secret behind it: a discovery. Little did the pilgrims know, the Templars had not even the slightest interest in protecting them on their route to the Holy Land. In 1118, nine French knights, all of whom were connected with the Court of the Count of Champagne went over to the Holy Land. With this mission: they said, "To protect the roads and the pilgrimage routes to ensure the safety of those who visit these Holy places." Now once they arrived in the Holy Land, there is actually no evidence that they did anything for nine years or so. There is other evidence that suggests that this "mission to protect the pilgrims" was a cover story for what they were actually doing: digging for nine years. As it turns out archeologists have found Templar artifacts under the Temple Mount, the original site of the Biblical Temple of Solomon. What were they looking for? The temples of Solomon had long since been destroyed. Yet in times of trouble the priests were known to have hidden religious treasures in secret underground vaults until it was safe to remove them. The Bible tells us "the Arc of the Covenant and other treasures of

the temple survived several foreign invasions in this way." Perhaps the Holy Grail had survived in the labyrinth under the temple as well, waiting for man to rediscover it. Certainly it was no accident that the Knights stationed themselves in a Mosque that rested on the ancient site; in fact it was after their stay that they changed their name to "The Knights of the Templar" rather than "The Order of the Templar Knights." A monk by the name of Bernard who later became known as Saint Bernard was involved with the formation of the Knights of the Templar. St. Bernard was a translator of ancient Hebrew texts. He was a man of learning and one to study ancient text focusing on the locations mentioned in regard to Biblical treasures. Bernard gave the Templars the idea that there was something worth having in Jerusalem. Hence the excavation of Solomon's temple. The find is described in a very old text written by a Templar but later found in St. Bernard's belongings: "We prepare to the sacred vault and let down one of the companions as before. The sun at this time was at its meridian height, the rays of which enabled him to discover a small box or chest standing on a pedestal curiously overlaid with gold. He gave the signal of ascending and it was immediately drawn out. We have brought it up for the examination of the Grand Council."

Just what was in this small box that got the Templars so excited? Clearly a group of Christian knights bound by the vow of poverty were not interested in anything of material value. More likely it was an object of great religious significance. To this day we still do not know exactly what the Templars found in the secret vault. What we do know is that news of the find brought Count Hughes of Champagne (the man who funded the expedition) back to Jerusalem to join his former vassals. Once there he immediately gave up all of his worldly possessions to serve under them, as one of the Knights of the Templar. It was after this discovery that the Grand Master of the Templars visited the Pope and with Saint Bernard's blessing the Knights of the Templar was

officially recognized by the Church. All over Christendom men rushed to join the Templars, leaving behind their families, giving over all their worldly possessions and taking on the difficult vows of poverty and chastity.

The vow of poverty is what made the Templars wealthy. How hard to believe that wealth can come from poverty is obvious, nevertheless true. Anybody who joins the order is required to give all of his or her possessions to the order. It became quite a prestigious thing for noble families to have some of their sons go into the Templar order. Also when the Pope endorsed the order, gave it his blessing and said, "This is a good thing" anyone that wanted to impress the Pope donated land or money to this new order and actually did so on a colossal scale. None of the individual Knights went without any article of pleasure or possession that they desired, so whether their vows were really significant or just a good cover story for their actual agenda is speculative. So all this material; land, castles, livestock and just pure money that was just given to them as a gift-went to the Knights of the Templar. Their reputation was the most feared, efficient fighting force on the Christian side definitely helped those unsure whether to donate to them or not. They were what some people say "the special forces of their time" also because they were this mixture of monk and soldier made them entirely original if not absurd, most people see monk and soldier in two entirely different categories but yet every Templar was both, how bizarre.

The Templars had quite a career after the crusades. They basically took over Europe financially dominating all the major industries especially that of money lending. They invented the modern checking system. Within a few years had all of Europe's Kings indebted to them. Far too big for their boots in many respects certainly as far as the Pope and many kings were concerned. The order had become unbelievably rich. It seemed there was no stopping them basically, most historians believe that they got their

comeuppance because of their wealth. However, with great wealth comes great envy. Essentially the French King who started the suppression of the Templars, Phillip the Fair was very jealous of their great wealth. It is generally thought that he used great accusations of blasphemy and sacrilege against them but really he just wanted their money. The official charges against the Templars as recorded by the Catholic Church were blasphemy and sacrilege, along with failure to observe reverence on the Sabbath day, sexual immorality, spitting and trampling upon the cross, worshiping not just a bearded severed head but in some extraordinary cases they were accused of worshiping the severed head of a cat. Whether true or not the Catholic Church got the confessions that it needed to suppress the Templars. On Friday the 13th 1307 the Pope officially disbanded the Knights, and the Grand Master was burned at the stake. By the middle of the 1300's the Knights of the Templar seem to have completely disappeared and their treasury confiscated.

Could the richest and most powerful brotherhood on earth and all their wealth be rounded up and seized overnight? No, the highly trained and organized Templars only went quickly underground taking most of their wealth with them. They changed into an enormously powerful and well-financed secret society. Indeed as history unfolded the facts show that the Templars never went anywhere: except out of the public view. Except with one added dimension, an extreme hatred for the Catholic Church. At the same time the Prior de Zion assumed they would meet a similar fate from the Catholics. They too seemed to disappear but yet again only from the public eye.

Over more than 400 years from the 14th to the late 18th centuries; Masons, Assassins, the Prior de Zion and the Templars existed as relatively isolated secret societies with a limited reach. Until May 1st 1776 in Bavaria the human race saw what might be it's darkest day.

Adam Weishavpt, a Jesuit trained professor of cannon law well versed in the occult formed a new secret organization that would unite all the secret societies for an unthinkable purpose. To gain complete control over the world and its resources while achieving total domination of its people. Weishavpt euphemistically described it as a "Novus Ordo Seclorum" or in English "New World Order". His diabolical brotherhood was founded on the synthesis of the themes of secret societies that had gone long before. He skillfully combined Masonic secret rituals and knowledge, the Assassins Islamic mysticism and killing arts, the Prior de Zion's influential membership, and the Templars wealth, power, military science and vendetta against the Catholic Church. To that he added his own knowledge of the occult, it was not an accident that he chose May the 1st, a very important date on the satanic calendar for the founding of his secret society. The group was called the "Illuminati" the public translation was "the intellectually inspired" but Weishavpt himself said in private that the word was derived from Lucifer and meant "Holders of the Light". The official seal of the brotherhood was a mystical unfinished pyramid and an eye above it with rays of light emanating in all directions. The eye represented the all seeing and all knowing nature of the illuminated brotherhood reigning above the world. To his followers the founder listed the five top secret primary means that will be used to accomplish his dark goal of total world domination.

- 1 > Monetary and sex bribery would be used to gain control of men already in high places in the various levels of all government and other fields of endeavor.
- 2 > The Illuminati who are on the faculty of colleges and universities are to cultivate the best students for the

cause.

- 3 > Influential people and specially trained students under the control of the Illuminati would be placed behind the scenes behind all government, religious, and financial institutions and used as agents.
- 4 > Develop absolute domination of the media so that all news and media may be slanted to convince the masses that a one world government is the only solution to the worlds many problems.
- 5 > Employ all resources in place to initiate military coos that would overthrow all opposing governments and put the world under one global government controlled by the Illuminati.

The group was originally composed of 32nd degree Masons who used various Masonic lodges as recruiting grounds and fronts for the Illuminati. The highest-ranking Mason to be recruited was a nobleman from north Germany; Baron Adolf Kenigie also known as Adolf Francis became a major player in the European Masonic scene.

The Illuminati were extremely secretive even identifying themselves in their charters by assumed classical names. For example Weishavpt was "Sparticus", Kenigie was "Phillo", the headquarters was "Illusis", Austria was "Egypt" etc.. Dates were given in a sort of cryptography. Under Kenigie's guidance the ranks of the Illuminati grew to be over 3,000 highly educated, fanatically secretive members. With so much rapid success brought an unequal amount of opposition. The Jesuits especially had fought the Illuminati from the beginning but seeing the growth of the organization sent the priests and those in power to the offensive, becoming very active enemies

against the order. Once the Catholic Church had heard news of this, the same action was taken, as in years past the Catholic Church was quick to destroy the unlawful. In fact so much opposition was raised that the Governor of Bavaria had declared the Illuminati to be an outlaw conspiracy fueled by seditious propaganda and promoting blasphemy by edict in 1784. Not only were they denounced, some of them were killed while some of the Illuminati were imprisoned while others including Weishavpt hastily left Bavaria. Soon, not only Illuminist but also Masonry was forced out of Bavaria.

Due to this move against the Illuminati from the Bavarian authorities the people of the world know what the cult's goals are all about. In his hasty flight, Weishavpt left his papers behind and they were found and published by the government of Bavaria. The documents created a sensation, as they showed that the Illuminati were planning revolution against every established government in Europe; and in the excitement the utter insignificance of the Illuminati, and the impossibility of their ever achieving their aims, were overlooked. The first organization to actually be exposed for developing an intricate system to undermine and control all governments, peoples, and religions of the world was simply: overlooked even though the plans straight from the desk of Weishavpt were on the front page of the Bavarian newspapers. Overlooked, "They can't possibly succeed!" "Just dreamers after power in high places" they'd say. This mentality which most people refer to as ignorance (which in the Greek means "dumb on purpose") is why the Illuminati have been so successful because no one thought that they could ever achieve to such high aspirations. By the end of the 18th century the Illuminati seemed to have completely disappeared, everywhere; but the Illuminati was not

really gone anymore than the secret societies that preceded them. They just went underground because they didn't control a single government yet, but it wouldn't be long. While recuperating their losses the Illuminati added one more item to their list of dark goals.

- 6 > Infiltrate and bring down the Catholic religion in order to bring about a one-world religion, by means of discrediting and generating public widespread rejection of the Bible.

When, fifteen years later, the revolution of 1789 broke out in France, some people said that it was the work of the Illuminati; others, because of the association of the Freemasons and the Illuminati, blamed the Freemasons for the French Revolution. Interest in the Illuminati, and the picture of them as the dangerous secret center of world revolution, revived at the beginning of the twentieth century, after the Russian Revolution of 1917 and the other revolutionary outbreaks which followed the First World War. Two factors encouraged the counter-revolutionaries of the 1920s to see Weishavpt and his organization as the guiding force behind every revolution from 1776 to 1919. The members of the society don't procrastinate. The Illuminati represent not only nation rising against nation and kingdom against kingdom, but man fighting against individual man. They usher in a time of murder, assassination, bloodshed, and revolution. The massacre of students and civilians on June 4, 1989, in Beijing, China, which aroused the freedom-loving people of the world, is a

microcosm of what will take place when the Illuminati bring their war machine into full force. Are wars increasing in frequency and intensity? Yes. Twice in one generation, the world was plunged into world wars. Since World War II, the war that was to end all wars, there have been fourteen limited wars, forty-five political assassinations, seventy-four rebellions for independence, 162 revolutions of either a political, economic, racial, or religious nature. As fast as we write these statistics, they are out of date. We should really be questioning the fifth directive of their goals: "bring the world into submission by force to establish a one world government." Taking over governments (by the method of war) one by one: has been effective, very effective. The United Nations is operated by the Illuminati: So how many nations do they control? The answer is 138 (this figure will increase) nations out of 172 (this figure wont) total nations in the world. What no one believed could happen, has been and IS.

Now, there are those who would say about history "That was then, this is now" well, frankly "then" ultimately affects the "now" as can clearly be seen in regard to these secret societies. If doubtful about the existence of the Illuminati: one must find an American dollar bill, if doubtful about the Masons: one only needs a phone book to look for "Masonic Lodge" if doubt fills ones mind of the Assassins: one must look to Afghanistan. When we look around the world today we see that these secret societies are alive and well. Masonic chapters or lodges can be seen in the open and found in every city all around the globe as a mainstream organization. The order of the Knights of the Templar exist today as the top ranking Masonic organization in the York-rite of Freemasonry and the charitable organization known

as The American Red Cross. What goes on inside Masonic halls is still relatively secret, considering that their buildings have no windows and only one door. The three secret words a Mason is given on the 3rd degree are "Jah-Bal-On". If a Mason were ever to reveal these words to anyone that is not of the order according to the oath that the adept had been sworn into the brotherhood, such a person breaking the oath is to be killed, without question. This has happened in times past, and not just once, but thousands of times. Those who are not killed for revealing information like the dark rituals, goals, and the vendetta against the Catholic Church are the ones who are operational members in the order, or just haven't been killed for talking about them yet. The Masons and Templars have very effectively integrated themselves into the worlds most respected societies not to mention each other. Considering that the highest degree in Freemasonry is the 33rd in the York-Rite, which after one achieves they become a Knight of the Templar.

To a lesser degree the Assassins have appeared publicly periodically throughout history. In the early 1800s they were visible in India when they came under the direction of the Argakon who they believed possessed divine powers. In the later 1800s the Argakon brought them to Afghanistan where they developed a lasting relationship with the British. Later the Argakon's descendants further infiltrated western culture. One prominent example was when Prince Ali Argakon grandson of Argakon the second married American actress Rita Heyworth. Are the Assassins, as a secret murderous order, a thing of the past? The bloodshed occurring today at the hands of the Islamic extremists would say, "The Assassins are alive and well." The Prior de Zion also continues to this day. In fact it has been reported that a number of prominent figures throughout history have served as the Priory's Grand Masters and there is corroborating evidence. In 1975 a discovery was made in a Persian library, parchments were found called "The Douce' de Le'caree."

These documents indeed reveal that some of the secret members were Leonardo Divinci, Victor Hugo, and Sir Isaac Newton. The Priory has been credited by some with the creation of the European Union. Former president of France Fransiswah Mieteron is believed to be a member of the Priory along with many other powerful people. As for the Merovingian bloodline the Priory had sworn to protect: it continues on. Through incestuous intermarriage most of the royal families of Europe can claim Merovingian descent and it is said that from these royal families have come all 44 of the United States presidents. These connections around the world through the Priory of Zion are what enabled the Illuminati to influence politics and power around the globe.

> > : .. Future Foretold :

At this point of this occultic overload, the question is obvious: "What does this all mean?" has more than likely crossed your mind by now. Keep in mind that human beings generally don't hide their virtues; instead people keep secret the bad things they have done: its just human nature. That is to say, if secret societies were indeed doing good things for the world, then why keep them secret? When Oprah donated two million dollars to the Childrens Lukemia Foundation she told the press, then everyone found out about it. People generally like to receive praise after they do something good, don't they?

The actions of secret societies as well as their desires and aspirations to establish a one world government and economy are just shocking affirmations of truth in a document that long ago predicted these things to happen: written in 96 A.D. on the small island of Patmos: the Revelation of Jesus Christ. No other religion even acknowledges these people even existing much less accounting for their goals. When 6% of the population of the

world is involved in these societies with the ultimate goal for absolute control of the world, you would think that a true religion would uncover the ones who are plotting against society in secret - devising and acting upon well calculated plans to achieve power over all nations, peoples, and religions. For such a huge part of history to be under the direction of the members of these societies to be left unnoticed by a religion is not only illogical, but is a true sign that that religion is false.

The very fact that these secret societies even exist with the goals that they have stated is just another startling realization that the Bible, once again, said it was going to happen - before it did. Stating in Revelation 13:7 that a one world government would come to power is almost ironic considering the fact: it's almost here. How could the premise for the actions of these societies be known 2,000 years ago? Since the prophets of the Bible are "inspired by God" : from a literal standpoint the only possible way for the future to be revealed is in the communication with the "All-Knowing God" who obviously knows the future. It's the essential ingredient in accuracy; the only way to know what is written in the Bible is true is the basis that what is written happens. A recent study conducted on Biblical prophecies fulfilled concluded that at this moment in time 2008 that 72 percent is complete. The Bible is not nearly done in it's predicting by any means. For Revelation to literally imply a one world government is to be formed in the years to come is astonishing. With 172 nations, and 138 united, it doesn't seem to be inaccurate, does it? "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph 6:12). Why would those in power oppose the God of the Bible? A Freemason once told me, "Within that book, our secrets are revealed while it proclaims our objectives are in vein and in this our

failure is said. Considering that, we work for the future of mankind, henceforth not for God."
His eyes were wide open, but he still didn't see..

_ . - : [} Inside The Recruiting Grounds {] : : -

))Freemasonry Revealed((

The Masonic Lodge (where you go to join the Illuminati) has its own inoffensive, politically correct god who is known as 'the great architect of the universe' (G.A.O.T.U.) or 'the supreme being.' Masonry boasts that every Mason can approach this god, regardless of his religion, in the "neutral" atmosphere of the Lodge-room. In doing so, the divergent brethren unite together in common worship by prayers, salutations and hymns to this innocuous being. The Masonic Lodge argues that this peculiar inter-faith harmony reveals the unique non-sectarian brotherly nature of the Lodge. However, the Masonic Lodge Rituals and Secrets Expose this blatant lie.

Masonic authority, W.L. Wilmshurst states, in 'Masonic Initiation (1924), "Life in the realm of Spirit is a unity, and for Masonic seekers the whole world over, there is but one Grand Master, but he can manifest and deputize through many channels... To the Jewish brother our science says; Take the Father of the faithful. To the Christian Brother it points to Him upon whose breast lay the beloved disciple. To the Buddhist it points to the Maitreya of the universal compassion; and to the Moslem it points to the prophet."

The Masonic Lodge rituals in reality attempts to bundle the true God of the Bible - Jehovah - together with all the many false gods in to a grand all-embracing figure who belongs to

all. This theology is known as SYNCRENISM, i.e. "all roads lead to God." Logically it is not possible due to every theology differing with the others.

***Freemasonry unveils the mongrel name for this
Masonic god in the "Royal" Arch degree of the York
Rite:***

"As we three agree,
In peace, love and unity,
The sacred word to keep.
So we three do agree,
In peace, love and unity,
The sacred word to search.
Until we three,
Or three such as we shall agree,
This Royal Arch Chapter to close."

They then reveal, the 'sacred word' - Jah-Bal-On.' (Only Freemasons know these words, keep that in mind.

This is privileged information your reading so don't go handing this book to a Freemason!)

This is given in a low breath and is performed three times by three lecturers, taking turns to pronounce a name each:

(1) "Jah" (2) "Bal" (3) "On"

(2) "Jah" (3) "Bal" (1) "On"

(3) "Jah" (1) "Bal" (2) "On."

This is one of the most guarded secrets throughout all the Masonic Lodge rituals and degrees.

The candidate is then told that "It is the name of Deity in three languages, viz Chaldean, Hebrew and Syriac. Which is the long lost master Mason's word, and has now become the Grand Omnific Royal Arch Word."

The Masonic Lodge, thus, blasphemously unites the God of the Bible - Jehovah - with the pagan gods of Syria - Baal, and Egypt - On - into a man-made anti-scriptural trinity. The names by which the Supreme Being was known to the three leading nations of antiquity, Chaldean, Syriac and Egyptian:

- 1 > Jah, the Chaldean name of God, and signifies, 'His essence in Majesty - incomprehensible.' It is also a Hebrew word, signifying, 'I am and shall be' thereby expressing the actual future and eternal existence of the Most High.
- 2 > Bal is a Syriac word which means 'Lord or Powerful' also 'Lord in heaven or on high.'
- 3 > On, is an Egyptian word meaning 'Father of all' as is expressed in the Lord's prayer.

All the significations of these words may be collected to say:

I am and shall be Lord in heaven and on high, Father of all.

This sinister Masonic attempt to place the heathen gods of this world on the same plane, or in the same godhead, as the God of heaven is a grave violation of the truth of God's Word and the explicit teaching of His Commandment. The first commandment succinctly admonishes us, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Ex. 20:3

God's infallible Word defines the true God of heaven, including His different names and attributes. It also outlines the manner by which man must draw close to Him. That is in and through the NAME of God's dear Son the Lord Jesus Christ ALONE. The Bible says, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." 1Tim 2:5-6.

The Masonic Lodge is a man-made religion that denies Christ His rightful place as man's sole redeemer. They also forbid any mention of the name of the Lord Jesus Christ during their prayers, praise and worship. Basically you can worship and call god anything except Jesus, yep now that is true religious union in action right there. The will say that they are an organization to bring about world peace but with them can be found no peace with anyone who proclaims that the Son of God is Jesus Christ. As a matter of fact the seventeenth degree consists of a test of character for the one hopping to be raised up on the Masonic ladder. The test goes a little something like this: the adept is told to trample on a cross that is laid upon the ground. If the adept does not do this they are told that they did the right thing but soon find out the true nature of Masonry by which they will not pass to the seventeenth degree but instead remain at the sixteenth degree perpetually ending their career in the Lodge due to an "error in the enlightenment process". On the other hand when the candidate stomps all over the

cross, they get a handshake and hug and are quickly welcomed into the seventeenth degree and told, "You did a great thing!"

So just who is this god that the Masons are so uptight about talking about? We must therefore ask, who is this abstract being who may be approached in such an indeterminate manner? It is certainly not the God of heaven because the God of the Bible can be personally known.

Jesus said, in John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

How can any Christian accept, by this active participation in Lodge worship, the adoration of false gods in Lodge prayers and hymns? How can men who profess Christ join in collective worship with unbelievers unto a variety of unspecified false gods? This is idolatry plain and simple. The definition of idolatry is: excessive devotion or admiration to an image that is called or believed to be God. What can be found inside the Masonic Lodge: holds on its walls and to its northern corner of the structure are simplistic showcases of idols that for some strange reason every Mason thinks is divine, don't join to find out; just take my word for it.

Choosing an in offensive title for this union of gods in no way diminishes this blasphemy. Acts 4:12 says, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Masonic Lodge Rituals and teaching are opposed to this eternal truth.

Anywhere the people of God are found meddling with false religion, God meets out judgment. Watch out America! There is a solemn warning, in Psalm 106:28-36, for those who partake and/or condone such awful secret abominations (like Masonry). God says, "They joined themselves also unto Baalpeor, and ate the sacrifices of the dead. Thus they

provoked him to anger with their inventions: and the plague brake in upon them. They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the LORD commanded them: But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works. And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them."

Masonic Rituals are heavily laden with mysticism, satanic chanting and worship of Lucifer in order to maintain material assets for themselves. It's not something that I have read; it's something that I have witnessed. Only later in Masonry at the 23rd degree does the "learned one" discover that all of the "secret wisdom" and "enlightenment" comes from the god of Freemasonry, which is Satan, the Devil, Appoloyon, Lucifer the bearer of light. It is in the handbooks, the Grand Master had even said it, and the 1st-3rd, 14th, 17th, 23rd degree are obviously indoctrinations of Luciferianism (Satanism), or in this case the local club that you might drive by from time to time..

The Masonic Lodge. . .

At least the curiosity never came over you to fully investigate for yourself what goes on inside of those "alleged" clubs. Little did you know, but now you have it,: the true nature of Freemasonry.

...-::[[]] Cryptozoology [[]]::- -

))The Study of Extinct Animals((

The world conservation union estimates that one in four species of mammal and one in eight species of bird are now at risk of extinction, as are 25 percent of reptiles, 20 percent of amphibians and 30 percent of fishes. Amphibians are known to be particularly sensitive to environmental degradation. Hence, recent declines in their numbers are widely regarded as a significant sign that the planets capabilities to maintain current levels of biodiversity are being dismantled. The United Nations has predicted that gorillas, orangutans, chimpanzees, and baboons (pygmy chimpanzees) have just a few decades left before they become extinct in the wild. Scientists believe that under natural extinction rates, the planet should be losing an average of one species every 4 years. However, estimates put the loss at about 17,000 species each year, the vast majority vanishing before their existence has even been scientifically documented. Such a tragedy. Why is this happening? Maybe because if we track down the present theory widely taught as truth to those scientists who practiced such abnormal scientific beliefs that maybe then we would come to a new understanding as to why, precisely these extinctions are happening.

For starters it's a common question in relation to a conversation about dinosaurs that someone asks, "What made them go extinct?" There are about sixteen different theories to answer that question ranging from a meteor

hitting the Ukatan peninsula to the dinosaurs own flatulence (or farting) killing them off. If you farted consistently for 6 years and 9 months, enough gas is produced to create the energy of an atomic bomb thus the absurd theory for the extinction of the dinosaurs even though such a theory fails in every aspect to explain fossilization, flatulence? What an idiotic theory and yet children are taught this as a possible truth. (Why is this in the textbooks?) It's just the wrong question. The more appropriate question compared to history around the world is, "Did they go extinct?" Before getting to in-depth, a quick study of recent extinctions will reveal historical patterns to answer this question fervently.

It is also well to know the obvious mathematical fact: that in no way can be disputed by any in or outside of the scientific community. Around 300 million years ago (when they say dinosaurs went extinct) the sun would have been at such an increased output rate to the point it would have cooked the entire earth into magma, thus producing no fossils at all. (The sun is losing mass every day, just calculate 500,000 tons per day back 300 million years. Now after you have done that you will get the diameter of the sun which coincides with its potential output by which reflects its output dynamically.) What are the odds that the modern scientific theory is incorrect? Better than average based on science fact? Many who rely on no dogma whatsoever would agree. Lets examine how these giants really died...

>>... Man killed off most Dinosaurs:

- 1> For *Meat*.
- 2> Because they were a *Menace*.
- 3> To be a *Hero* (save the village).
- 4> To prove mans *Superiority*.
- 5> Competition for *Land*.

- 6> Medicinal *purposes*.

Take a look at some of the recent examples of mass extinction based on the activities of mankind before concluding the mindlessness of an asteroid hitting the planet as the cause of dinosaur extinction. This is an incredible study by which the evidences out weigh by far the yield of a theory which cannot be proved. Good science being supported by evidence that declines the authenticity of a previous theory is what the art of understanding is all about. If the evidence disproves your theory, get a new theory - that's science in action.

Killed for Food > The Dodo - Long gone, the loss of the Dodo (*Raphus Cucullatus*) is a classic example of human disregard for wildlife. Discovered in 1507 on islands in the Indian Ocean the Dodo weighed about 50 pounds (23 kg) and had useless stubs for wings. With no means of escape from seafarers who killed it for sport and for food, the bird was extinct by 1680. Also - Sharks, the fins of many species of sharks are among the world's most sought-after fishery products. Shark fin soup has been a delicacy for centuries among the Chinese. Excessive harvesting of sharks is putting many species at risk of extinction. Could such random and yet officious occurrences be part of the reasoning behind mass extinctions? Ask any scientist, and the answer you'll hear will be "Yes."

Killed because they were a Menace > Thylacine (Tasmanian Tiger) - The largest carnivorous marsupial to survive into historical times, the thylacine resembled a wolf, but had a distinctive striped coat and a long, stiff tail. It mainly hunted birds, wallabies, and smaller mammals. Although competition with the dingo led to its disappearance from mainland Australia 3,000 years ago, the thylacine was

widespread on Tasmania until Europeans arrived. A reputation for killing sheep soon saw it hunted to extinction, with the last confirmed sightings occurring in the 1930s. Or so they say and yet the sheer number of animals driven from lands so exceeds the literary references in which one can competently count statistics accurately from. This is not only a historical issue in its majority of sociological factors but yet it remains a prolific incident that even so applied to the dinosaurs. Think about it like a hunter would because if you can't and your half a woman or half a man the task simply is beyond your mentality. Ever hunt to protect your food?

Killed while Competing for Land > The rapid cultivation of the steppes of southern Russia and the Ukraine in the 19th century contributed to the disappearance of wild horses. The only sub-species still existent, Przewalskii's horse survives only in captive breeding programs. While there are plans to return these animals to the wild, the success of this venture will depend on efforts to preserve their natural habitat which they can no longer inhabit due to human housing and business.

Killed to be a Hero > If there were a news announcement at this very moment that said: "Grizzly bears are on a rampage in the downtown area killing people". After hearing that announcement, every gun totting redneck in four counties would be downtown trying to kill those grizzly bears. Then they would be on the news later on that evening, "Look momma, I saved the village!". Whoever shoots the biggest one gets to be the hero. The same scenario happened to the dinosaurs. If you could figure out a way to kill a dinosaur (dragon) you'd be a hero. They would tell stories about you around the camp fires for generations to come. There are thousands of stories about people killing dragons (dinosaurs).

Killed for Medicinal purposes > In the search for new pharmaceuticals, the skin secretions of toads and frogs such as Australia's green and golden bell frog are receiving attention. Some frog skins are known to have antibiotic properties, and research suggests that these host defense compounds have great potential in the world of medicine. Hence, the need to protect frogs such as the vulnerable green and golden bell frog gains added impetus due to their newly founded importance related to human healing potential.

Take for example, the Buffalo of the western United States. During the 1800s they were nearly killed entirely out. Even to this day their existence is fleeting and estimates on their survival rate is increasingly depleting. Most Buffalo remain in captive breeding programs and may never return to their natural habitat. Due to the insatiable desire for their meat, and other qualities, mankind has reduced the Buffalo population to an inevitable extinction. It is however, a difficult task to comprehend a past in which very few clues remain as testaments of truth but still reaffirmations of present day activities reflect the course of extinction throughout the past. Running off the dinosaurs, killing them off, and using them as medicine or just plainly seeking fame and respect for killing one are all attributes that can be applied to animals like Tigers, Black Panthers, Cheetahs, and the like which all remain on an inevitable extinction list. The series of human behavior holds even more true when dinosaurs are tossed in the picture. Just look at this picture taken in the 1800s posted in the New York Herald and ask yourself: Is it possible for mankind to stop killing off all the creatures in the world?



(Man standing on top of a mountain of buffalo skulls.)

The Bible says that there was no death before Adam sinned:

"For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come." (Romans 5:13-14)

That means that man and dinosaurs must have co-existed (lived together) in order for the Bible to be true. So then there must be evidence of this statement if in fact it is true (and there is). However, the textbooks say dinosaurs were extinct before the first man walked the earth.

As mentioned before, there is only one correct answer to any specific problem.

Well, in all clarity; it's really simple, now that you don't believe in evolution and know why it's not science; you're going to be able to understand this. In those days (before 1841) they called dinosaurs: dragons. There are thousands of legends of people seeing or killing "dragons." Unfortunately these people who had seen or killed, dragons didn't call them "dinosaurs" because the word hadn't been invented yet. 1841 came along and as did Sir Richard Owen whom history remembers for coining the term "dinosaur" in place of "dragons" and confusing a wide array of people, myself included at one point. So for most of human history, dinosaurs were called dragons because the meaning of the word wasn't messed up until Richard Owen decided to change it.

The same various different species of dinosaurs have been found all around the world on nearly every continent by almost every culture. Time, human endurance, patience and the virtues that wonder brings are all crucial characteristics to uncovering the truth about a natural history so mysterious and different from the present teachings, it almost seems disheartening to investigate. Needless to say that bones tell a story so long as the one who sees the bones knows enough about them to make the words flow with the grandeur of remembrance and understanding of a time long ago. That the historical accounts of ancient art work, sightings, and archaeological finds ring true and that man once lived with dinosaurs, roaming the earth.

> > : .. Evidence of Co-Existence:

- Alexander the Great reported that; when he conquered parts of what is now India in 326 B.C. his soldiers were scared by the great dragons that lived in caves and

dense wooded areas. Alexander was known as a meticulous recorder of facts, which lead to his establishment of the most complete library of his time. With a reputation like "the Great" one must consider that the possibility of considering him a liar would be outrageously absurd.

- Many ancient medicine recipes (ranging from Chinese, Indian, Celtic and Viking medical texts) call for dragon bones to be ground up and put in with other ingredients to establish an elixir of "revitalization." These recipes date back to as early as 389 B.C. and as late as the 1300s. The medicine men and women could not call the bones "dinosaur" bones because 1841 had not yet come to pass.
- A famous Chinese man named Yu, who after the great flood surveyed the land of China and divided it into sections. He built channels to drain the water off to the sea and helped make the land livable again. Many dragons were driven from the marshlands when Yu created the new farmlands. Ancient Chinese records even tell of Yu *slaying several dragons* that otherwise would have killed many people if they were let live.
- Marco Polo lived in China about 800 years ago, he lived there for 17 years around 1271 A.D. and reported *the emperor raised dragons to pull his chariots in parades*. Why would he come back and tell a story like that? One theory suggests that the emperor was raising dragons to pull chariots in his parades. In 1611 the Chinese law

books record that the emperor appointed the post of a "Royal Dragon Feeder." Books even tell of Chinese families raising dragons to use their blood for medicines and highly prizing their eggs. Why on earth would you need a "Dragon Feeder"? Simplicity says, "*To feed the Dragons!*"

- As the French explorers Jaques Marquette and Louis Joliet traveled down the Mississippi in 1675 they stopped in Alton, Illinois across from St. Louis. They saw the Piasa bird painted on the cliffs. When they asked the Indians what it was they were told it was a giant bird that used to kill and eat people but Chief Ouatoga had killed it using a plan the Great Spirit gave him. Today, instead of constantly repainting the image of the piasa bird a plaque of actual size is hung on the cliff overlooking the Mississippi river north of Alton Illinois. If you go to Alton, IL and look up Piasa in the phone book you will get over *25 listings under the name*. The legend is famous in those parts. Here's the kicker, the Piasa bird looks like a Pterodactyl.
- Many reports from those in America who made the pilgrimage out west, state they had encountered Pterodactyls, "*giant birds without feathers*." Some cowboys back in those days had shot and killed one but failed to preserve the corpse so no museum expo could take place. However, a similar occurrence happened during the civil war, Union soldiers managed to shoot one down and subsequently did manage to take photos and document the moment but also failed to preserve the remains of the pterodactyl:



(The photograph has been authenticated as genuine.)

- In Chajudana Venezuela the Yequana Indians told missionaries Adam Hutchinson and Clint Vernoy about a giant "bat" that they feared greatly. It was said to capsize canoes and even carry off Indians. Indians are terrified of this great "bat" and had sent their bravest men to the head of the river where they killed one of the creatures about 30 years ago (story recorded in 1928) and buried it near the Muwada River. (Muwada means bat dung.) When Clint showed the Indians a picture of a *Pterodactyl* their eyes got as big as saucers and they said, "*That is the bat!*" They positively identified this 'extinct' dinosaur as the bat that lived just a few miles from their village. Even today the Indians will not fish or drink from the river for fear of this creature.
- Beowulf *slew many dragons* and was killed while fighting a winged dragon in 538 A.D. at age 88. The story says Beowulf killed Grendel the dragon by pulling

off one of its small front arms and the creature bled to death later. This story coincides with a Babylonian cylinder seal found in 600 B.C. where a man is depicted pulling the arm off of a dragon. In addition to the Babylonian record of this occurrence, the same method can be found in Egyptian artifacts, and the Icka Stones of Peru. Irony? Or, is pulling the arm off a dragon an unofficial way to kill one?

- Mexico has legends of a gigantic flying monster. All the legends have in common the large size and power of this creature. Thunder was said to be the sound coming from its wings as it flies. A couple of cowboys apparently shot a Pterodactyl some 120 years ago in Mexico. The cowboys said it had a mouth full of teeth, huge wings of smooth, tough membrane like a bat's and a gigantic slender body (bat's don't get very big). They cut off the wing tips and took it back to the saloon and said "we shot a giant bird with no feathers." People still remain fascinated by this story today because there are many like it.
- Viking ships often had a dragon head mounted on the front of their ships "to ward off enemies", this was going on in 1000 A.D., just a thousand years ago. They also have many pictures throughout their culture of *dragons swallowing men*. For more extensive and in depth information on Viking dragon lore
- Missionary Tyson Hughes told William Gibbons he was in Seram, Indonesia where the locals told of a 4 1/2 foot tall

creature with leathery wings like a bat's. The creature lives in caves on the side of a volcano in the center of the island. They call the creature Orang-Bati which means: man with wings. Seram has 9,000 foot high mountains. It is 250x100 miles. They also have a similar animal in Sumatra, Indonesia that looks like a Pterodactyl. (Bat's just don't get nearly as big as these people are describing the things they have seen.)

- The Babylonian god Marduk (the chief god) is always shown pictured riding on *top a dragon*.
- Ancient pottery from the first dynasty of Egypt tells the tale with a slate palette from Heirakonpolis, showing triumph of King Nar-mer (first Pharaoh of united Egypt) and long necked dragons (what appears on the artifact depicts a brachiosorus). While in the tomb of Inherka a long necked creature was found engraved on a hippo tusk or the "magic wand" in 12th century BC.
- An Irish writer recorded in 900 A.D. of an encounter with a large beast with "iron" nails on its tail which pointed backwards. Its head was shaped a little bit like a horse's. And it had thick legs with strong claws. These details matched features of dinosaurs like the Kentrosorus and Stegosaurus. They had sharp-pointed spines on their tails, thick legs, strong claws and long skulls. How could he have seen a dinosaur when they were supposed to be extinct?

- Thailand has many legends of dragons. China is, of course, famous for its dragon legends. Throughout Chinese art the repetition of the below statue is evident. Chinese law books even speak of this dragon being the mascot of the Chinese people. It has always been thought that the dragon was just mere myth established to scare off visitors to the land, in doing so reduce the chances of immigration, etc. However, fossil remains of this particular species of dinosaur have been found.

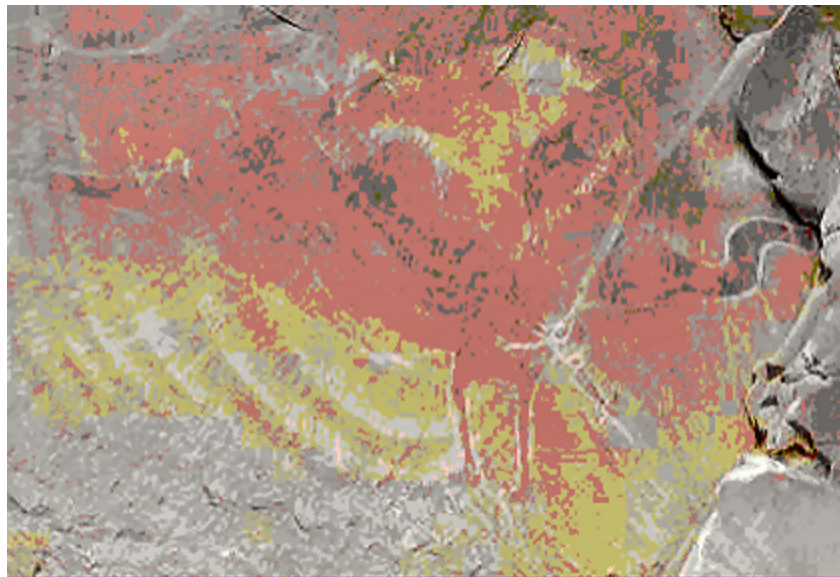
Artistic Rendering



Matching Fossil Remains



- Dr. Carl Baugh has taken several trips to Papua, New Guinea and has interviewed many locals who have seen a pterodactyl. The natives call it "Ropen". Mr. Jerry Williams, a missionary to the area for 28 years told him he knew these animals were still alive. The natives talked of them often and a missionary friend of his saw one that looked like the pictures he had seen of a Pterodactyl. The natives even had a petroglyph on the caves as a warning to all who would pass by in the area of how dangerous this creature was. The flying monster was known to carry off people and eat them. The drawing of the creature on a rock face tells the truth about the existence of pterodactyls in New Guinea:



(Petroglyphs like this are found in caves all around the world.)

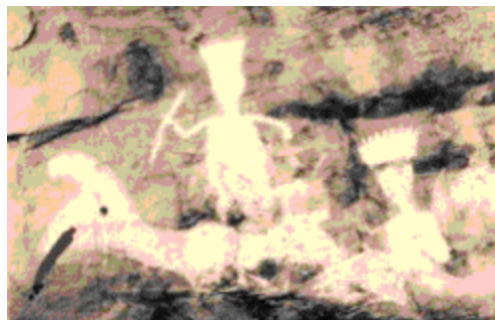
- St. George was famous for slaying dragons in 275 A.D. St. George was killed for his faith April 23, 303 A.D. He is the patron saint of England and Portugal.

- Job chapter 40 speaks of Behemoth the "Chief of the ways of God". Making an in depth description of the creature while describing it to have a tail like a cedar tree, biggest of all stomachs, and incredible height while possessing bones like "bars of iron." Many Bible commentaries refer to this creature listed in Job 40:19 as a "hippo" or an "elephant" but neither the elephant or hippo have tails like cedar trees much less bones like bars of iron. Read the description for yourself while comparing the description the Bible gives compared to the Brachiosaurus (the biggest dinosaur ever found). It may just be my opinion, but it may be yours too; that those who write the Bible commentaries need to at least read the verse before they write something about it. Just an idea to prevent confusion.
- The Icka stones of Peru are notorious for being expert evidence and fortuitously detailed drawings of dinosaurs. Out of the 84 stones found so far there are over 114 different types of dinosaurs depicted on the stones. Half of the dinosaurs are known by the fossil record, however the rest are unknown species to the scientific body of knowledge. College classes involving anthropology and cryptozoology often spend a months time in dedicated study of these stones. The below examples of the stones in action are pictures of a Triceratops and a Man riding a Sauropod (with a curious looking saddle on the dinosaur):



(Numerous pictures of a similar nature exist in various museums.)

- Similar enough to this depiction on the Icka stones is a famous drawing on a cliff in New-Mexico, where a Man is on top of a Sauropod with the same shape of device in his hand. The clarity of these events taking place seem to be commemorations of the "Hero" (the hunter killing the dinosaur) slaying the *dragon*. Much like we do today for war heros by making statues and painting their pictures to honor their great achievement and that future generations may not fogret what great things they did for us. The following and the above artifacts dictate this psychoogical reasoning. Pictures speak much much, louder than words. :



- An Alaskan news paper (Anchorage Daily News) tells of yet another Pterodactyl sighting: A newspaper story this week about the sightings of a large bird in Southwest Alaska turned out to have wings. The tale of villagers seeing an eagle like bird with a wingspan as long as a Dodge van brought dozens of e-mails from readers in

Alaska and the Lower 48 and one from the Netherlands. The on line news magazine Drudge Report posted links. John Bouker, the Dillingham pilot who saw the bird while flying into Manokotak recently and who was mentioned in the story, said he was getting "bummed out" from all the calls he received from news organizations. "They're calling from all over the world," Bouker said Thursday.

- Roman mosaic's made in the 2nd century A.D. show two long necked dragons. How did Romans know about dragons in the second century after Christ? How on earth did they paint such vivid portraits of them if they had never seen them? The only logical conclusion is to say: They must have seen them. The Romans were anything but lunatics and most definitely not hysterically inclined to propagate rubbish in their records of history and artistic renderings of nature. They saw: dinosaurs. Logic tells of no other possibility. How could the picture on the pottery on the left not be a representation of the fossil remains found depicted in living form on the right?



(Pottery on the left, actual dinosaur on the right.)

- A very similar picture of the Roman mosaics is found in many cultures around the world, ranging from the Mayans, peoples of India, the Vikings and so on. The Anazazi in the 5th century A.D. sometime had painted this picture on several walls of the Grand Canyon:



(Long neck dinosaurs are the most common dinosaur depiction.)

Whats more is that many dinosaur footprints have been found along side of human footprints while some human footprints are found inside of dinosaur footprints. This is an occurrence that through my own research has unearthed to my own count over 74 instances where such finds have been made. As lengthy as such information would be to list and as seeing that the 74 different locations are of the same nature it would seem pointless to list them all - but rather more logical to simply give the details of just one and leave you with the others to investigate for yourself. The following is a personal record from Michael Copperage a Ph.d. of archeology and practitioner of cryptozoology. Providing the information that sums up the various discoveries from around the world in this one discovery the best is the feel his story has given me. With great confidence it pleases me to introduce his account of in depth investigation into the phenomenon known as "dinosaur footprints by human footprints":

"Several years ago, I heard about human footprints being found alongside dinosaur tracks in a Cretaceous limestone in the vicinity of Glen Rose, Texas. There were newspaper accounts in both the Fort Worth Star-Telegram (June 17, 1982) and The Dallas Morning News. Also, Dallas area television stations Channel 5 and Channel 8 reported on the finds. I did not think much about this at the time but later, because of my extensive reading on the subject of evolution, I was reminded of it. In January, 1995, I made a trip to Glen Rose specifically to visit the Creation Evidences Museum and find out all I could about these footprints. I discovered that the excavation work there is done for about two weeks in summer each year as the Paluxy River is too high in the other seasons. Also, the landowner allows the digging to proceed for only this limited time. I visited the area of

the river bank and observed for myself the large and clear left-right trails of dinosaur prints. Many are 6-10 inches deep, 2-3 feet across, and show a three-toed foot. I decided to visit the museum and find out all I could about these footprints. During a long conversation that afternoon at the museum, I learned that human tracks had been uncovered in this area since at least 1910. Geologist Clifford Burdick, Ph.D., verified human tracks here in the 1940's. The work of the individuals connected now with the museum began about 1982. Since then, 57 footprints of man have been found in excavations along the Paluxy River and in at least one other site in the same general area. During my visit, I was shown casts of some of the footprints found previously. One section of rock is displayed which was cut out of the river bed because it contains one of the clearest footprints found to date. A cross-sectioning of one of the best finds is also displayed. Pressure laminations consistent with a human footprint in mud are clearly shown. During our visit, I was shown casts of some of the footprints found previously. One section of rock is displayed which was cut out of the river bed because it contains one of the clearest footprints found to date. A cross-sectioning of one of the best finds is also displayed. Pressure laminations consistent with a human footprint in mud are clearly shown. Several well credentialed scientists had witnessed and testified to the genuineness of the discoveries. Media from around the country had witnessed at least some of the discoveries. Evolutionists, however, had dismissed the human footprints as the carvings of Indians, the tracks of a sick dolphin, a case of misidentification, or an outright fraud. One gentleman was so threatened by the discoveries that he actually took a hammer, went to the river, and broke up some of the footprints to make them useless for study." (23)

Some of the human footprints have been found right next to those of a dinosaur. *One was even found inside the animal track!* The relatively soft limestone rock is subject to rapid weathering from exposure. The human tracks are shallow and look like a footprint made in mud or wet cement. Because of this the details of the human prints are lost within days of the time of exposure. I knew that the human footprints, found side by side with dinosaur tracks, if genuine, destroyed the theory of evolution all by themselves. Still, I wanted to see for myself. (See www.agoracosmopolitan.com for the pictures and full study of the evidence)

Along with two of my friends, Ted and Jorge Gomez, I went to Glen Rose to observe and participate in an excavation on June 19, 1995. We helped to remove the exposed rock ledge at the work site. This ledge covered the limestone layer in which the tracks had been previously discovered at other sites along the river. Each portion of the ledge we removed (approximately 50 sf.) weighed at least 2000 pounds. The removal of each piece took several men with sledge hammers and three heavy duty jacks hours of heavy work to accomplish. No Indian had ever lifted and then replaced this covering rock to carve anything! A dinosaur track, but no human track, was discovered on our first day. Jorge and I returned to work on another site on June 29, 1995. This site was about 150 feet down river from our earlier location. Both sites were chosen because previous findings indicated a trail of footprints might extend to them. Dr. Carl Baugh (Ph.D. Anthropology, M. Archeology), was in charge of the excavation. Several of the people there had been working for the entire two week period.

When we arrived Dr. Baugh was beginning to carefully excavate clay from a depression in the target limestone.

Several of us worked with hand trowels to remove the 3-4 inches of clay which overlay the fossil layer. This clay had been uncovered when the exposed covering rock had been removed the previous day. It was quite obvious that the clay layer had never been disturbed since its deposition. I worked within 3 feet of Dr. Baugh. Once he suspected that the depression on which he was working could possibly be a human track, all other activity in the area ceased. Everyone then focused their attention on his work. Dr. Baugh removed the clay with utmost care and no chipping or sculpting occurred. Several of those in attendance testified to this on camera and that the site was previously unexposed or disturbed in any way. The rock ledge and clay had completely covered the depression until we removed them. The depression in the limestone was clearly made by a large human foot. It was a right foot. The big toe and three rightmost toes made very clear impressions and rock ridges were found between the toe marks. The second toe made a lesser impression which is consistent with the way humans walk. There was a rock bump in front of each of the toes made when they pushed up the mud. The shape fit the arch and also the right side of a foot. The heel was not clear but looked as if the individual had slid in the mud. The depth of the impressions was consistent with the depth of tracks made by someone walking in mud. The toes were round and smooth. Everything was in the proper proportion.

Since I had the largest foot in attendance, size 13, my bare foot was used as a comparison for the extensive video tapes and photographs that documented the excavation. As my foot was both beside the footprint and in it for quite a while, I was able to examine it very closely.

"Without any doubt, it was a human footprint. I testify that everything I witnessed I have reported faithfully and without exaggeration."

-Michael Coppedge

Aside the testimony regarding co-existing human prints with dinosaur prints Coppedge's account is one of thousands that report on the same topic. People don't devote their lives to living out lies. At the very least, sane individuals don't. It is with adequate experimentation and thorough examinations that these discoveries have been certified and established as science fact, not theory.

As National Geographic's January edition in 1993 said on the Age of Dinosaurs "No human being has ever seen a live dinosaur." He might believe that but it's not a part of science. In order to say that and it be true, the writer would have had to talked to everyone on earth, dead and alive by means of a simple question "Have you ever seen a live dinosaur?" Of course, and especially those living today would say "No." But tell this to Nebuchadnezzar that no one had ever seen a living dinosaur when he had dinosaurs in cages in the city of Babylon (archeology speaks for itself). There are pictures on pottery, clothing, stones, and hieroglyphics of dinosaurs all over the world in nearly every culture. If someone asked you to draw a picture of something that you had never seen, you wouldn't be able to draw it would you? This is the case for these pictures found around the world. The Icka stones of Peru are prime examples of this concept in action. Stones with pictures etched into them of dinosaurs with circular patterns on their skin. What makes this astounding is that when explorers started excavating Antarctica, digging deep into the ice they found dinosaurs. Amazing enough, but it gets even better: they found preserved dinosaur skin still attached to a tyrannosaurus skeleton. The skin had circular patterns. The odds of someone drawing a dinosaur fitting the shape and size of limbs and head and skin pattern are astronomically

against the actuality of these components even coming together if the artist had never seen the creature in real life.

Why is all of this important to a book that is all about the evidence of God? In simplicity: dinosaurs prove the Bible to be the Word, and truth of the true Creator (the One described in so many ways, found in the Bible). Due to it (the Bible) saying that "there was no death before Adam sinned" means that dinosaurs were not extinct before "man came about" as evolutionists say, but rather coexisted. Through history we can see so many obvious remnants of mankind's coexistence with dinosaurs yet while evolutionists refuse to acknowledge the evidence. It may be out of sheer laziness they refuse to acknowledge the evidence because if they did it would ultimately result in the rewriting of every textbook and the disposal of Mythical material they now use. To adequately examine this topic to it's entirety a ten thousand page book would need be written. When cross referencing dinosaurs with other religions you will find various cases of worship and absolute fear of the creatures. Having faith in the Bible is not only evidence based but is logically decided, to have faith in facts isn't really faith at all - it's believing in what's real and true, it doesn't take faith to believe in the truth but rather it takes faith to believe in a fantasy.

So why teach about dinosaurs? Well, Satan is using them to turn people away from God. Satan couldn't fool Adam, the conversation would go something like this: "Hey Adam, did you know that dinosaurs lived millions of years ago?" Adam would say "Are you dumb or what! There's one in the back yard eating off the cherry tree!" He couldn't fool Noah because he would feed them every day. But for the next few thousand years they became scarce and some went extinct. Somebody ought to set the record straight. Christians are confused about where they fit in. I'm just trying to show you

the Bible is correct as it is written. I think that God ought to get the glory for everything that He made. If Behemoth is "the chief of the ways of God" as Job 40:19 describes a brachiosarus, then God ought to get the glory for what He made. I hope that the random bursts of evidence were enough (although there is much more) to help you to understand, co-existence was simply the way the planet once was. However, to better understand how dinosaurs maintained a coexistence with mankind the door to hydrology must be opened.. so come..

_ . - [} > Hydrology < {] :-

-

H2O's Big Secret

"And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters." Genesis 1:6 (the start of day 2) There used to be a layer of water above the atmosphere. Some people think it was ice suspended by the magnetic field of the earth. Somehow there was water up there, the Bible says it was and proves it was in the fossil record all in the secret to the air we breathe. A canopy of water overhead, while water was on the crust of the earth and beneath the crust of the earth is what that verse says. Also the Bible also says that most of the water that is now in the oceans used to be under the crust of the earth. If you read Psalm 24 it says, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods." or Psalm 136:6 "To him that stretched out the earth above the waters"

Most of the water that is now on the surface used to be in huge subterranean water chambers. So the Bible says that there is more water beneath the crust of the earth than there is in the oceans. Now, consider that there was no possible way for any "human" to know this, well unless they drilled about 10-18 miles straight into the ground (depending on elevation). Did they have good mining equipment back then? Even with a shovel and the constant guise of insanity working in a mans mind day in and day out digging for the rest of his life, he would never get to that depth. So,

knowing that no man could have possibly known this, how did the writer of Genesis know? Hmm.. Not only do we know that the subterranean water chambers exist, but we have studied them or at least the Japanese have ever since a team of their geologists drilled down 14 miles into the earth's surface. Revealing that the Bible said it - before we found it out for ourselves.

Today the world is 70 percent water by which only 3 percent of the world's surface is habitable for mankind. This tells us that the earth was very different. Since God made the earth to be inhabited, then why is so little of it livable today? "The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth" Gen 6:11-12. "And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. Make thee an ark of gopher wood;" Gen 6:13-14.

_ . - [} > Flood Legends < {] :- -

Because There Was

Evidences of a worldwide flood can be found in more than 270 flood stories and historic records found in many parts of the world. Flood legends are common in the folk tales of many countries. Their various interpretations reflect the way details may change when stories are told from one generation to another because of the absence of written records available to them. Let's look at just a few of these stories.

: :- Hawaii - : :

- Long after the death of Kuniuhonna, the first man, the world became a wicked, terrible place to live. There was one good man left; his name was Nu-u. He made a great canoe with a house on it and filled it with animals. The waters came up over all the earth and killed all the people. Only Nu-u and his family were saved.

: :- China - : :

- The history records that Fuhi, his wife, three sons and three daughters escaped a great flood. They constructed a boat in order to escape the waters. He and his family were the only people alive on earth, the sole survivors. After the great flood they repopulated the world.

: :- Mexico -: :

- The Toltec Indians of ancient Mexico said, "the first world lasted 1716 years and was destroyed by a great flood that covered the highest mountains." Only one family named Coxcox survived. (The Bible dates put the flood 1656 years after creation. The Toltec legend is only 60 years off after 4,000 years, what irony.)

: :- Atlantis -: :

- Although held to be myth by some, the legend may actually have some truth to it. Several hundred years at that time, the account of the flood could easily have been reported by some like King Amraphel (Genesis 14:11), who was one of the early kings of Babylonia after the flood. Another flood account was prevalent during the time of Alexander the Great, probably recorded by a Babylonian historian for the benefit of the Greeks. He wrote of the "amie-diluvium" (pre-floods) rulers and of the "great Deluge" (great flood) that covered the earth.

The newspapers that are on the stands right now at your local gas station will eventually be considered "legends." Yep, sure will. When things happen that are actual events, things we might call "news," two months down the road we would call it "recent events," ten years later we would refer to it as "history" and four thousand years after it happened we call it a "legend." What this means is that a flood happened. And we can scientifically see how a flood had occurred because of all of the fossils we find. Don't escape reality by refusing to learn about the past; join reality by embracing why we are here - because of what happened in

those days.. To better understand why a flood had to have happened, the door to fossils must be opened, so come..

_... -::[[]] Fossils [[]]::- -

))Bury Me Quickly((

Have you ever heard someone say "Fossils are proof of evolution.." or anything like that? Chances are, who ever thinks that most likely isn't thinking at all. That's what some would call "idle chatter." In order to properly comprehend the truth about dinosaurs it is adherent that the knowledge of how we find them tells us about how they died. Some people claim to be able to trace dinosaurs migratory patterns some 65 million years ago.. that's not science, that's rubbish. The only thing that you can prove about a fossil is that it died and was covered quickly with sediment. Some things that no one can prove is; if that fossil had offspring (much less offspring that actually lived), if the offspring was the same kind as the fossil (which there would be no logical reason to assume that a pleaseousaur would have a triceratops for a baby, but evolutionists assume these things happened). The only thing that anyone can tell is the fossil lived, was buried quickly otherwise something would eat it's remains, and lastly died.

Two facts commonly pointed out about the fossil record are
1> that if there have been animals on earth for hundreds of millions of years, then the fossil record should contain millions and millions of fossils, many of which should be transitional forms, so that there should be numerous examples of transitional fossils (none have ever been found).
2> Unitarianism sedimentation rates are too slow to preserve organisms. (And they are, f you sat down in one spot for 10 years and never moved, so much dust would collect on you resulting in your fossilization - absurd isn't it.)

Fossilization starts and ends like this:

**Life >> Death >> Preservation >> Survival >>
Discovery -._**

> > : .. Life:

While it would appear that the fossilization process must start with the death of the organism, it actually starts in life (as the upper echelons of academia occasionally shows). By life I mean that the life strategy of the organism, which will have profound impact into its fossilization potential (FP), the likelihood of being fossilized. For an organism even to begin considering a career as a fossil it must be buried quickly, while any life strategy which enhances the likelihood of burial will increase its FP. Consequently, organisms which live on land have a much lower FP than organisms which live in shallow, near-shore marine environments. It's a fossil requirement that whatever the organism is must be covered with sediment and water in order to be preserved. For example, the FP of your average marine Lesser Spotted Leaping Clam has a higher FP than your average Lesser Spotted Leaping Mountain Goat, due to the periodic, rapid sedimentation events experienced in near-shore environments. Also, organisms which do not possess hard parts or whose hard parts are fragile will have a low FP since they are unlikely to survive the burial process intact. Giving soft bodied creatures like octopus and eggs just to name a couple, an almost impossibility of becoming fossils. The position of the organism in the food chain is important since those lower down tend (for excellent ecological reasons) to be more abundant than those towards the top, so that organisms which occur in large populations, due to their sheer numbers, have a higher FP than those that occur in smaller populations. Having a life cycle which incorporates living within the sediment provides added bonus points to

the organisms FP since it is already buried. So the possibilities of fossilization without a flood are as follows:

High chance of burial + low in the food chain = High FP

Low chance of burial + high in the food chain = Low FP

> > : .._Death:

How an organism dies also affects its FP. Shuffling off this mortal coil out in the open is not good since there tends to be a large number of organisms around to take advantage of such events to reduce your remains and FP quite rapidly. Even if you are already buried, something higher in the food chain digging you out and crushing you into a thousand small bits has something of a disastrous effect on your FP. Not to mention if you were not buried at all the possibility of becoming a fossil is basically non-existent due to the occurrence of another animal coming along and eating the remains scattering them everywhere. Similarly your FP can be badly affected if you are rolled around by storms. Rapid smothering is still the best way of increasing your FP. This cuts down the possibility of further contributing to the food chain and in certain instances provides an environment suitable for preservation. So we have:

Smothering by storm or *flood sedimentation* = High FP

Being eaten or rolled around = Low FP

> > : .._Preservation:

This covers the survival of the organism's remains after death and its transition into a fossil. Burial is the premier method of ensuring passage into the preservation stage. Rapid burial is a common process which occurs on a regular basis. Floods, storms, landslides, and volcanic ash eruptions lay down sediments over a period of hours to days. In some cases several meters of sediment can be dumped in near-shore environments by severe storms. Sedimentation does

not have to occur on a slow, steady, incremental basis. The geologic record of rocks is inaccurate when compared to fossils found in nature. Burial protects the organism from higher food chain organisms with bad intentions and from the general environment - against mechanical (abrasion and break-up) and chemical processes (decay and disintegration). In the vast majority of cases decay is inevitable. Therefore organisms which possess some robust hard parts (shell, bone) have a much higher FP than soft-bodied organisms which have no hard parts, or possess fragile hard parts. Only under exceptional circumstances are soft-bodied organisms, or non-mineralized tissues, preserved (only by freezing, found in the fossil record in Antarctica). This usually occurs when the environment surrounding the organism either is low or lacking in oxygen. Such environments are not needed to produce all fossils. The vast, vast, vast majority of organisms were fossilized in environments with normal oxygen levels, although these organisms are only represented by their hard parts with no soft parts remaining. Fossils containing preserved soft parts are therefore exceedingly rare compared with fossils composed of hard parts. There are a number of possible preservation pathways once burial is complete. Some result in chemical alteration of the remains. Most result in the continued destruction of soft tissues:

Rapid burial = High FP

Hard parts = High FP

Slow Burial = Low FP

No hard parts = Low FP

> > : .._Survival:

Once an organism has been successfully buried and preserved the fossil must survive in order for discovery to take place and to even know that the organism existed in the first place. If the sediments containing the fossil erode

away the fossil will be lost. If the sediments are buried too deeply the resultant increase in temperature can destroy the fossil.

Loss by erosion is especially likely if the organism was buried above sea level. Sediments above sea level are far more likely to be eroded than sediments buried in basins which are sinking. Sinking basins can accommodate more sediments (e.g. in the near-shore marine environment) allowing more sediment to be deposited, protecting the sediments beneath. Our Lesser Spotted Leaping Aleutian Goat (or any other non-marine animal) may well have become a fossil but its fossil is much more likely to be eroded and destroyed than that of a fossilized clam which is buried below sea level:

> > : .._Discovery:

A fossil cannot be discovered unless the sedimentary rock containing it is exposed at the earth's surface. At any one time only a tiny fraction of the fossil bearing sedimentary rocks are exposed and available for being searched. Of all the time that current fossil-bearing rocks have been exposed at the earth's surface only for the last few hundred years have been searched. Of all the fossil-bearing rocks that have ever been exposed at the earth's surface only the ones exposed now have been searched.

The vast majority of fossils are of organisms with hard parts which lived in environments conducive to rapid burial. Questions like how do you get a fossilized whale in the middle of Utah? Are very good questions, especially since whales have been found there. The explanation that only organisms with a lifestyle of a high fossilization rate seems to be rather obsolete when fossilized eggs have been found as well as octopus and various soft bodied creatures (which

technically "shouldn't be found as fossils") point to another explanation.

There is no way, other than a flood to explain how massive amounts of clams and oysters are found on the tops of mountain ranges all over the world. Clams certainly don't walk very well much less hike a mountain. Being fossilized while they were still alive (in the closed position) is a sign they were covered quickly. How did they get fossilized over 7,000 miles away from the nearest ocean (where they live) and on the tops of mountains? Oceanic life forms are found fossilized in places that they shouldn't be found. What modern science can simply not compute is this equation, the only way to make sense of the information fossils give us is to determine that these creatures were the byproduct of a world wide flood. Any other explanation doesn't meet scientific methodology and must be deemed unscientific.

For instance, those who have the long-standing position of dinosaur extinction who claim it was caused by an asteroid hitting the earth, forcing clouds of dust into the air smothering the dinosaurs and covering them quickly is absurd. Fossilization required water. Dependence on moisture to replace the particles of flesh and bone with hardened minerals that over the course of a year can solidify bone and flesh making a fossil. The asteroid theory simply does not add up to the methods behind fossilization. Therefore the only logical (purely scientific) reason for extinction is reliant based on geological conditions we now find and the processes a fossil is formed conclude a worldwide flood as the cause of billions of fossil formations around the world.

_...-[[[]]> Hydrology <[[[]]::--

Which Flood legend is True?

If you look at a map of Turkey today near Mt. Ararat you will see "Nuhun Gemisi" which in English means "Noah's Big Boat". They've even got signs. You can drive right up to it "Five kilometers this way to Noah's big boat". This I know is beyond difficult to believe and I know that you may not see it as an "answer" to the question that everyone asks but this; believe me, is a "footnote" of that grand answer. I couldn't believe any of what you're about to read either so I understand how hard this might be to some of you. Since you made it this far I know you have the ability to utilize catmas rather than being controlled by the enigmas of dogmatic thinking. There is literally a massive fossilized boat sitting out in the Arrarat Mountain chain in Turkey.. look at these happy tourists taking a trip picture with the sign pointing to Noah's Big Boat visitors center.



(Nuhun Gemisi is Turkish for "Noah's Big Boat")

The Bible says "the ark rested in the seventh month... upon the mountains of Ararat." (Gen. 8:4) The government of Turkey confirms, "This is Noah's Ark." There's a visitors center that you can even go to and due to my own skepticism I had to call the place and ask all kinds of questions. It's been confirmed by several scientists and the government of Turkey legitimized it as actual fossil remains of a boat resting in their countries mountain chain. Due to several media agencies, the news stories of this amazing finding were obscure and even some false churches won't even acknowledge the fact that Noah's Ark has been found.. exactly where the Bible said it would be.



Noah's Ark and the Visitor's center

(The boat shaped object to the left is the lower deck levels of the boat and all that remains.)

Richard Reeves conducted thorough investigations utilizing ground penetrating radar and has identified deck timbers within the structure as well as the layout of the arks construction bow to stern. They found iron rivets that bolted the thing together where you can find some of these relics in a museum south of Nashville (Wyatt Museum, 2502 Lynnville Hwy, Exit 27 on I 65, 55 miles south of Nashville Cornersville TN, 37047 www.wyattmuseum.com).

ossilized rivet head
om Noah's Ark.



3 rivets as seen in
place on the Ark
before they are
cleaned off.

July 1981. In the presence of 25 witnesses, Ron Wyatt found the rivet head directly adjacent to the ark. It apparently had fallen from the ark when the ark was being moved. Wyatt found only the head section which was broken from the shaft. Laboratory tests revealed that it contained metal, but no phosphorus, which shows it is not made of a non-metal alloy. In 1980, Turkish archaeologists found several of these rivets in the ark structure which were 100 thousand years old and were 5 feet long. Ron and the witnesses had found evidence of these rivets, which were made in the city of the ark. (See Wyatt's book, "The Ark: A New Discovery".) The rivet heads of the ark can be seen in the photo at right. The rivet heads of the ark can be seen in the photo at right.



The Bible says that the ark would be 300 cubits long, fifty cubits wide, and thirty cubits tall (Gen 6:15).

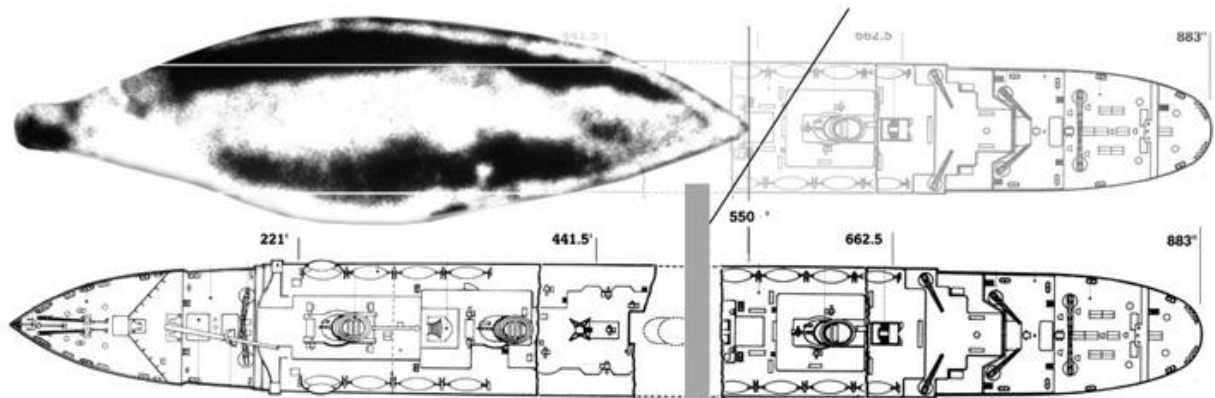
Now, a cubit is the measurement from your elbow to fingertip. The standard Egyptian cubit was 20.6 inches.

Noah's Boat is 515ft long, which is 300 cubits. Fitting the dimensions of the boat shaped object in the following picture.



(In case you can't tell, it's the boat shaped object.)

It's about 2/3rds the size of the Titanic and almost two football fields long. The following image is a ground penetrating radar scan of the internal structure of the boat and it's dimensions. It's a composite of several hundred radar scans. The outline of the Ark in it's actual dimensions has been scaled to make a compairison with the Titanic which most people are familiar with in terms on naval ship construction and size. Noah's Ark was massive and totally feasible in terms of craftsman ship according to the internal design concept that the builders had used. This picture should give you an idea of just how long 515ft really is



In the vicinity of the boat Reeves found giant rocks with curved holes drilled through the tops of them. These are called "drogue stones"::: twelve were found. If you hang a bunch of rocks all around the boat it would become more stable during stormy weather. These stones would act as shock absorbers keeping the boat level and preventing it from capsizing. This seemingly ancient mariner practice is still used today as a preventative measure from overturning in rough weather and as hypothesized by the Creation Research Institute Noah would need these stones due to the calculations made by such obvious notions in a worldwide flood situation. The tidal change alone would be in the vicinity of 600ft changes. This, alone could be undermined by the vessel utilizing these simple stones for anti-capsizing purposes. These stones weigh in at a little over 4 tons each.



(Drogue stone, one of 12 found by Ron Wyatt)

After all he wasn't trying to go anywhere - he was just trying to float. The boat is the right size, it's in the right place, and the government of Turkey says its Noah's Ark, so, it must be. All of the evidence required to state that "This is Noah's Ark" is there, been studied and tested extensively. The discovery

became official as of 1987 as the government archives provide us with information regarding the site of the Ark.

Here is just how it went down, "Ron meets with the Governor of the Agri District, Mr. Sevket Ekinici. The December 1986 decision was positive - it was the official decision of members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, of Internal Affairs, and researchers from Ataturk University, among others, that the "boat-shaped formation" did indeed contain the remains of Noah's Ark!"

Congrats world, we all suspected that the Ark was going to be near the mountains of Ararat (just like the Bible said), but now we know it is!

Dr. Walter Brown, Air Force Physicist Professor has a geological reason for the way the world is today. Hence, a worldwide flood. Now that the evidence you have now uncovered to the authenticity of the Ark discovery, even without it - the earth itself speaks of a disastrous flood all by its geology. In his book "In the Beginning," here is "The Hydro-Plate Theory":

"We can see on our planet 17, very strange features which can now be systematically explained as a result of a cataclysmic global flood. Whose water erupted from subterranean chambers with an energy release exceeding the explosion of ten million hydrogen bombs. This explanation shows us just how rapidly mountain chains formed. It explains the coal and oil deposits, the rapid continental drift. Why on the ocean floor there are huge trenches and hundreds of canyons and volcanoes. It explains the formation of the layered strata and the fossils. The frozen mammoths, the so-called "Ice-Ages", and major land canyons, especially the Grand Canyon.

The pre-flood earth probably had only one very large super-continent, covered with lush vegetation. There were seas and major rivers. The mountains were smaller than today's but perhaps 9,000 feet high. According to the Hydro-Plate theory the pre-flood earth had a lot of subterranean water, about half of what is now in the oceans. This water was contained in inner-connected chambers forming a thin spherical shell about half a mile thick perhaps ten miles below the earth's surface. Increasing pressure in the subterranean water stretched the crust just as a balloon stretches when the pressure inside increases. Failure in the crust began with a microscopic crack which grew in both directions at about three miles per second. The crack following the path of least resistance encircled the globe at about two hours. As the crack raced around the earth the overlying rock crust opened up like a rip in a tightly stretched cloth. The subterranean water was under extreme pressure because of the weight of the ten miles of rock pressing down on it. So the water exploded violently out of the rupture, all along this global circling rupture fountains of water jetted supersonically almost twenty miles into the atmosphere. The spray from this enormous fountain produced torrential rains that the earth has never experienced before or after.

The Bible states that: all the fountains of the great deep burst open on one day. It describes these events about 5,000 years ago which we can now tie together scientifically. Some of the water jetting high above the cold stratosphere froze into super cool ice crystals and produced some massive ice dumps burying, suffocating and instantly freezing many animals including the frozen mammoths of

Siberia and Alaska. The high pressure fountains eroded the rock on both sides of the crack, producing huge volumes of sediment that settle out as muddy water all over the earth. The sediments trapped and buried plants and animals, forming the fossil record. This erosion widened the rupture. Eventually the width was so great that the compressed rock beneath the subterranean chamber sprung upward giving birth to the mid-oceanic ridge that wraps around the earth like the seam of a baseball.

The continental plates (hydro-plates) still with lubricating water beneath them slid down hill from the rising mid Atlantic ridge. After the massive, slowly accelerating continental plates reached speeds of about 45 miles per hour they ran into resistances: compressed and buckled. The portions of the hydro-plate that buckled upward formed mountains, those that buckled down formed ocean trenches. This is why the major mountain chains are parallel to the oceanic ridges from which they slid. The hydro plates in sliding away from the oceanic ridges opened up very deep oceanic basins into which the flood waters retreated. On the continents, every bowl shaped depression (basin) was naturally let brim full of water producing many post flood lakes."

This scientific explanation you have just read of a massive world wide catastrophe that we can look at and see today in antiquity of the Biblical account of the flood in every detail by simply looking at a globe, dear reader is the most accurate explanation for the way we see the world today. It is, in a word logical. Reasonable and true. Parts of the ground were probably only under water for just a few months or weeks, just long enough to drowned everybody.

Which was the reason for the flood in the first place: because the people were corrupt.

So, if this is all true then did Noah take dinosaurs on the ark? Billy Graham answered this question in the Gaston Gazette, 2000: "No, Noah's ark apparently did not include dinosaurs. The reason is because dinosaurs and similar ancient creatures that we only know from fossils were extinct before the time man got here." Oh no Billy, now you've got death before sin! I love Billy Graham, and praise God for all the good things he's done, but he's wrong about that one. Dinosaurs on the ark? Well, weren't they BIG? Yea, the big ones were big, but the little ones were little. By the time that Noah went in to the ark he was about 600 years old, you would think he was probably smart enough to figure out that you don't have to take the biggest one's you can find. Take the babies instead of the adults. The biggest dinosaur egg ever found is smaller than a football, so the little ones were in fact: really little. You bring babies because they are smaller, they weight less, eat less, sleep a lot more and they will live longer to produce more offspring which is why he was bringing them in the first place. He only had to bring one of every kind, not variety (Gen 6:19). Cat kind, Dog kind, Elephant kind, Rhino kind, Horse kind.. You get the picture.

Only bringing the animals "wherein is the breath of life." (Gen 7:14-15) He didn't have to bring insects because they don't breathe. He didn't have to bring fish because they had enough water outside the ark! "All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land," (Gen 7:22) so anything without nostrils didn't go into the ark because they didn't need to. In this verse it says that insects, plants, and fish are technically not alive according to scripture but instead are a self-replicating food source. Insects don't have nostrils, they breathe through their skin (sphericals), and

they just found debris to land on or just floated. Noah only brought the land animals (dinosaurs live on land), brought those with nostrils (dinosaurs have nostrils) - no bugs, he brought babies - that's common sense, bring two of each kind not every single species variety...

So how many were there? Many experts say that there are about 8,000 basic kinds of animals in this world. If you were to have a list of all of these animals and you talked at sixty words a minute you could name all the animals in a little over two hours which you would also have named all of the dinosaurs by kind as well, consider that. The Bible mentions dinosaurs 35 times: kind of a dead give away that - dinosaurs lived with our ancestors.

When the dinosaurs got off the ark they faced a very hostile climate. Things had changed. The canopy of water overhead no longer was there bringing the oxygen ratio to what it now is. Having that been said the remainder of conclusive information to be had you have already read from door 33 in regard to how the evidence of co-existence is unavoidable. However to truly sink these pieces in the discovery pertaining to this history of oxygen must be made, the door has been opened - so come.. .

_.. -::[[> The Secret To The Air <[[::- -

))42-51 Percent((

Possibly the most overlooked thing in our daily lives is breathing. We know that we are taking in oxygen and sometimes terribly wonderful odors like perfume. While some odors are simply terrible like when you are in a store and someone who has obviously been performing one, if not several acts of exercise walks by you and the smell makes it very clear that he or she has increased their odor by doing so. Opening the car window going home while behind a truck that may very well be considered to be "too large" or too "semi" in nature blows its smoke stacks and reveals how awful it truly is. How about when changing a litter box, the smell then is littered with the secret to be had. But what are we breathing when there is no 'obvious' smell?

What goes through the nostrils of every man, woman, child and creature all over the world is oxygen. Lots of oxygen. Where is the secret in that you ask? Well, the secret is in the past. What people are breathing today is between 18 and 21 percent oxygen (depending on elevation) whereas what people were breathing way back when, before 4400 B.C. was 42-51 percent oxygen. What does that all mean? It means that if you were running you could keep on running for 60-100 miles without being exhausted. Increased oxygen in that percentage would allow the body to heal about twelve times faster than it does now. Ask any professional athlete about "hyperbaric chambers" and they'll tell you they feel like a million bucks (even though they get more than that)

when they step out of the chamber. These hyperbaric chambers are used in just about every sport you can imagine (especially football) because these chambers simulate an increase in pressure, and oxygen. If your blood stream was oxygenated with 42 percent oxygen - you would not only feel better, think better, be stronger, heal extremely fast not to mention overall living longer, you would develop to be bigger. Ask Michael Jackson he sleeps in one every night. He says he's going to live forever because of his hyperbaric chamber. There are also hyperbaric chamber clinics setup around the globe, they look like this:

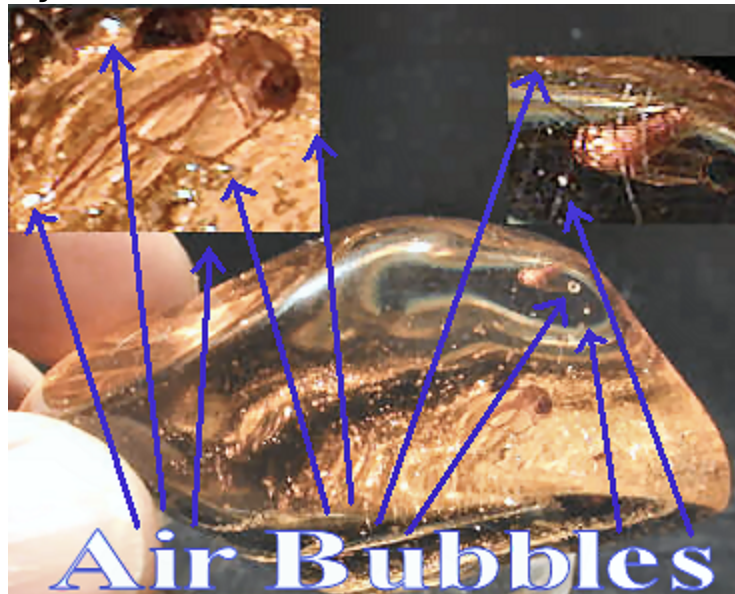


(A Hyperbaeric chamber clinic in California.)

That "living longer" benefit of the increased oxygen condition is the only way to logically explain why several of the Biblical figures (i.e. Methusala, 986 when he died) lived for so long.

This condition that the earth was in long ago was the same as what the Bible explains in Genesis 1:7, it describes there being a canopy of water above the surface of the earth. Well, in order for us to find fossilized amber with air bubbles inside maintaining an oxygen level ranging from what we

have found so far to be 42-51 percent oxygen is only explainable by what the Bible has said.



(Oxygen bubbles captured in fossilized ambers is how we know the oxygen ratio was once much different on Earth.)

This canopy of water above the earth would increase pressure that would in turn make plants, animals, and humans grow much larger than they now are. With an increase in plant size there would definitely be an increase in oxygen because plants emit oxygen. The earth was different in those days says the Bible, "There were giants on the earth in those days." It might be a good idea to consider it says that because there were giants on the earth in those days.

How do we know this to be true though? Several factors lead us to easily establish increased oxygen as a previous condition found on earth. Another way to verify the oxygen levels would be to refer to the biomass. The biomass means all the worlds vegetation and living organisms, everything except rocks and dirt basically. If you look at the amount of coal (which is what vegetation and living organisms turn into when under the right amount of pressure and heat) in

the world, the entire biomass (plants) of the world today could not possibly be converted into that much fossil fuel. In other words, there's more coal in the ground now than there are plants to produce it. There is so much coal in the ground, if you took every bush, plant, tree, and blade of grass in the world - you could not form all of the coal that is found in the ground. The Bible says that there were plants over the whole earth. Today the earth is 70 percent under water. The only logical way to explain why there is so much coal in the ground is that there was a worldwide flood (the latent heat of condensation from a flood would produce the right conditions for coal to form the way we find it today) which would cover the plants quickly with tons of sediment and pressure to form the coal. Millions of years simply can't form all that coal. Actually if millions of years were the case the coal would dissipate and lose mass and we wouldn't find nearly as much as we do. So it just couldn't have been 'millions of years'. It just doesn't work that way.

The fossil record makes it really clear that a worldwide flood happened. The only way that the oxygen levels could have been changed is precisely this event happening. When the subterranean waters burst through the canopy of water above the surface of the earth the force destroyed the canopy. Keeping in mind that this canopy increased oxygen levels, pressure and shielded the inhabitants of the earth from the x-rays of the sun, making the earth an entire greenhouse for vegetation to rapidly exceed what we see today. So, how do we know this for sure and where is all the evidence? Fossils. For instance there is a reed in central Europe that today grows to be 5 feet tall but before the flood we find fossils of the same type of reed that grew to be 150 feet tall. Dragonfly's with 39 inch (3.25 feet) wing spans, Grasshoppers 2 feet long and 9 foot tall Camels are all a part of the fossil record.

How do you explain such a drastic increase in size? Oxygen, 42-51 percent to be precise. These organisms grew to be so incredibly large due to the oxygen and pressure from the canopy of water above the atmosphere. But does it still work today? Yes! Scientists have built massive chambers for various kinds of animals to live under hyperbaric conditions. One scientist conducted an experiment with parinas which on the average don't get even a foot in length but raising these fish in a hyperbaric tank they grew to be 4 feet long! The information on this topic is nearly endless and would require an entire book to do it justice for someone who "doubts" what can be observed and studied. To deny what we have "observed" simply based on the premise that it proves the Bible being correct (yet again), would be foolish because you can't avoid scientific facts (even if you are an evolutionist). For your own sake check it out for yourself! Things were much different on this earth! You once wondered about the air but now you have it: the secret to the air.

However, like many things that sound so outrageous to believe, just as I once doubted the first article I read on giant camels, scorpions, and even giant humans of all things, disregard just like most feel overcame me too. For this purpose and reason a quest for the information to satisfy the curiosity bouncing like a feverish ball of lava in my head; only met by the cure of evidence, did solve. Maybe the evidence will explain to the doubt dwelling in your bones just as how it gently self-repaired the tear a few new ideas like the ones being questioned here once did for me. So, due to the friendship nearly everyone makes with their dear old pal "doubtfulness" and "skepticism" the antidote I have sequestered below. Just like you, while reading some things that seem "too outrageous" or entirely "illogical" yet again for this purpose of better serving the doubting mentality, I've taken it upon myself to include some photos to remedy

the deficit of skepticism. So come, open the door to the celebration of gigantic madness... .

**There were Giants on the earth in
those days...**

(Genesis 6:4)

> > : .._The Evidence of Giant Humans Around the World:

- In Lampec-Rancho California, in 1833, soldiers discovered a skeleton 11' 9" long which was covered with boulders with an unidentified writing. A similar writing was unearthed on the isle of Santa Maria off the coast of Los Angeles. In July of 1887 in Eureka Nevada, a human leg was found measuring 38.9 inches from the knee to the heel. The man was over 11 foot tall. In Crittenton Arizona in 1891 a sarcophagus was uncovered containing a human 3 meters high (11 foot 2 inches) and had 12 toes. More recently skeletons ranging from 2.8 meters to 3.12 meters (that's 9' 4" to 11' 7" feet tall) were found by soviets in the Caucasus Mountains. In China skeletons 10 feet tall have been found. In the Philippines a giant human skeleton was found at gargation, measuring 17 feet long. In the Eagle three Cole mine at Bear Creek Montana in 1920 two human molars were found three times larger than normal. In Braton Tennessee human footprints were found in solid rock 33 inches long and one foot wide. How to determine how tall someone is based on their foot print is the length of the foot multiplied by seven. This holds true with generally everyone. If these figures are correct and the general law of height is true based on foot length, the owner of these foot prints would have been 19 to 20 feet tall. These also have six toes each. Tools found in Morocco are so large their users must have been at least 12 foot tall in order to even use them much less make them. Other Giants found around the world are: the Java giant, the south China giant, and the South Africa giant. (See The Timeless Earth p. 26, or Door 41 for more information)



(Fossilized human footprint 33 inches long and 12" wide.)

- Fossilized human footprints have also been discovered in Sweden, and in Mexico. Giant skeletons have been discovered throughout the United States. Photos of giants from recent times are all a part of important natural history. An article from Strand magazine (December, 1895) reprinted in *Traces of the Elder Faiths of Ireland* by W.G. Wood-Martin mentions this fossilized giant discovered during mining operations in County Antrim, Ireland: "Pre-eminent among the most extraordinary articles ever held by a railway company is the fossilized Irish giant, which is at this moment lying at the London and North-Western Railway Company's Broad street goods depot, and a photograph of which is

reproduced here. . . This monstrous figure is reputed to have been dug up by a Mr. Dyer whilst prospecting for iron ore in County Antrim.

- The principal measurements are: entire height of, **12ft. 2in.**; girth of chest, **6ft. 6in.**; and length of arms, **4ft. 6in.** There are six toes on the right foot. The gross weight is 2 tons; 15cwt.; so that it took half a dozen men and a powerful crane to place this article of lost property in position for the Strand magazine photographer to do her work. The below is the picture of the giant published in Strand Magazine 1895. The fossilized human remains were dubbed the "Irish Giant".



(The world famous "*Irish Giant*")

Dyer, after showing the giant in Dublin, came to England with his joyful find and exhibited it in Liverpool and Manchester at sixpence, sixpence a head, attracting scientific men as well as gaping sightseers." The Irish

Giant is still on exhibit in Dublin today at the University of Dublin Museum. The price for admission has on the other hand incidentally increased.

- Near Crittenden, Arizona, in 1891, workmen excavating for a commercial building came upon a huge stone sarcophagus eight feet below the surface. The contractor called in expert help, and the sarcophagus was opened to reveal a granite mummy case which had once held the body of a human being more than twelve feet tall - a human with six toes, according to the carving of the case. But the body had been buried so many thousands of years that it had long since turned to dust. Just another silent witness to the truth of Genesis, which tells us that there were giants on the earth in those days, the excavation of over a dozen skeletons **8 to 12 feet tall**, around the world, shocked archaeologists.
- These skeletons were positively human. Some of these skeletal remains are on Maui in lava caves near Ulupalakua and Olowalu. An example of this is the "mysterious" disappearance of more than **50 perfectly kept gigantic antediluvian skeletons** (between **10-14 feet tall**) found in a cave in Arizona. What seems not only odd but illogical about the many remains of giant humans being found and placed in museums throughout the world is that, for some strange reason they eventually go into "private collections," someone almost always buys them. Not in all cases but in several.

It just goes to show the great lengths that some evolutionists will go to hide the truth from the uninformed. What a conspiracy covering up the truth is. Evolutionists knowingly purchase these giant human remains because they know that these great men and women of old make the Bible's authenticity valid - and their personal beliefs unreasonable. So, it's no real conquest of abstract thinking to assume that they buy the evidence in order to protect their own religion: evolution.

- ~ Earth Giants: over the years a number of **gigantic human skeletons** have been unearthed. The most distinctive of these were the remains of some American giants found in the 1880s at Tioga Point, near Sayre in Bradford County, Pennsylvania, as recounted by Robert Lyman in Forbidden Land. Some other examples include the following:

A decayed human skeleton claimed by eyewitnesses to measure around 3.28 meters (**10 feet 9 inches tall**), was unearthed by laborers while ploughing a vineyard in November 1856 in East Wheeling, now in West Virginia. A human skeleton measuring 3.6 meters (**12 foot**) tall was unearthed at Lompock Rancho, California, in 1833 by soldiers digging in a pit on construction orders. The specimen had a double row of teeth and was surrounded by numerous stone axes, carved shells and porphyry blocks with abstruse symbols associated with it.

- ~ Several mummified remains of red haired humans ranging from 2-2.5 meters (6.5 feet to over 8 feet) tall were dug up at Lovelock Cave, (70 miles) north-east of

Reno, Nevada, by a guano mining operation. These bones substantiated legends by the local Piute Indians regarding giants which they called Si-Te-Cahs. For some reason scientists did not seem to want to investigate these finds further, so many of the bones were lost. Fortunately one of the giant Lovelock skulls is still preserved today. It measures almost 23 inches (1 foot 11 inches) tall and resides along with other various Lovelock artifacts in the Humboldt Museum in Winnemucca, Nevada. Some of these artifacts can also be found in the Nevada State Historical Society's museum at Reno. If the calculations on the skull are correct as to body dimensions, the individual would have been 9 feet 3 inches tall.

- ~ In Discover magazine for September, 1967, is mentioned a reported discovery by Mr. Samuel Hubbard, of remains of giants in the Grand Canyon of Arizona. Owing to press unreliability, most did not notice this to a great extent. We have now, however, obtained more knowledge on the subject, and there remains no doubt that Mr. Hubbard has actually made a discovery composed of the following parts: **Petrified bodies of two human beings about 18 and 15 feet in height** respectively. One of these is buried under a recent rock fall which would require several days' work to remove; the other, of which Mr. Hubbard took photographs, is in a crevice of difficult accessibility. The bodies are formed of a limestone petrification embedded in sandstone.
- ~ An ancient beach, now sandstone, containing a great number of footprints of a giant race, men, women and

children; the prints of adults about 17 to 20 inches in length, and corresponding in size and shape to the Carson City and Blue Ridge prints. Making the calculation of their height based on the length of the foot multiplied by seven equates to these individuals being **9-10 feet tall**. Try the measurement on your own height, multiply the length of your foot times seven.

- ~ According to a press clipping, dated Nayarit, Mexico, May 14, 1926, Captian. D. W. Page and F. W. Devalda discovered the bones of a race of giants who averaged over ten feet in height. Local legends state that they came from Ecuador. Nothing more has been heard of this, but that is not surprising; the word "**giant**" will flutter the feathers of any scientist into rapid flight, metaphorically speaking, in the opposite direction. So also with a report from the Washington Post, June 22, 1925, and the New York Herald-Tribune, June 21, 1925. A mining party, it is reported, **found skeletons** measuring **10 to 12 feet**, with feet 18 to 20 inches long, near Sisoguiche, Mexico. The Los Angeles Times, October 2, 1927, says that explorers in Mexico located large human bones near Tapextla, indicating a race of "gigantic size." All this, if unfounded, would be a straining coincidence or imagination pushed pretty far.
- ~ Press accounts say that the skeleton of a gigantic man, with head missing, has been unearthed at El Boquin, on the Mico River, in the Chontales district. The ribs are a yard long and four inches wide and the shin bone is too heavy for one man to carry. "Chontales" is an Indian word, meaning "wild men." If the calculations are

correct this man would have been **16 feet 3 inches tall**, give or take a few inches since his head has not been recovered.

- ~ Giant skeletons were found in the mid-1800s near Rutland and Rodman, New York. J.N. DeHart, M.D. found vertebrae "larger than those of the present type" in Wisconsin mounds in 1876. W.H.R. Lykins uncovered skull bones "of great size and thickness" in mounds of Kansas City area in 1877. George W. Hill, M.D., had yet another similar discovery when he dug out a skeleton "**of unusual size**" in a mound of Ashland County, Ohio. In 1879, a nine-foot, eight-inch skeleton of a woman was excavated from a mound near Brewersville, Indiana. Among several others all averaging a height of **9 and a half-feet**.
- ~ "A skeleton which is reported to have been of enormous dimensions" was found in a clay coffin, with a sandstone slab containing hieroglyphics, during mound explorations by a Dr Everhart near Zanesville, Ohio. The coffin alone was 15 feet in length, with the occupant inside inhabiting **14 feet 3 inches** of the length of the coffin. Clothes neatly stitched together adorned the body while much of the corpse was intact and preserved remains of a man who lived long ago.
- ~ In the late 1950's during road construction in Homs southeast Turkey, Many tombs of Giants were indeed unearthed. These tombs were 4 meters long, and when entered in 2 cases the human thigh bones were

measured to be 47.24 inches in length. They calculated that the person who owned this Femur probably stood at fourteen to sixteen feet tall. A cast of this bone is seen at the Creationist museum in Texas. In this case the image you have previously seen that estimates the owner of the footprint would have been somewhere in the 24ft category.

- ~ Flavius Josephus, the noted Jewish historian of the first century A.D., described the giants as having "bodies so large and countenances so entirely different from other men that they were surprising to the sight and terrible to the hearing." And he adds that in his day, the bones of the giants were still on display!

I know that some of these news articles might sound somewhat far fetched, but as far as I know **they are true and backed by scientifically examined fossilized remains.** The media, in general, takes the supernatural or conspiratorial off the public eyes. Remember, the enemies of the Almighty claim the same concerning the realities described in the Bible. The fact that something sounds strange, even weird, does not mean that it is necessarily unreal. After all, we are in the End Times and things will get even stranger and much more distasteful before the Messiah returns to end it all as we know it, and then start a new, perfect and beautiful world. What a wonderful Day that will be! I pray that you all are able to discern in these alternative news articles the actual fulfillment of many prophecies which multiple generations of believers longed for the honor to see and live without the suspense of not knowing.

"There were Giants on the earth in those days..."

(*Genesis* 6:4)

[That verse doesn't just exclusively mean *humans* as you've just seen.]

: .._The Evidence of Giant Animals Around the World:

FOSSILIZED GRASSHOPPERS: *Pycnophlebia Robusta*
RECOVERED-LOCATION: *Solnhofen, Germany*

The fine-grained lithographic limestone of Solnhofen in Bavaria is home to some of the finest insect fossils to be found anywhere in the world, the delicate process of preservation being ideally suited to these most delicate of creatures. That said, many of the insects found there look like giant relatives of their modern day equivalents, and this winged grasshopper is no exception, measuring **27 inches long** (not including antennae measurement). With typical skill, the Solnhofen preparators have rendered the ghostly image of the insect slightly proud from its matrix, which measures **74½ x 56¼ inches**. Today grasshoppers rarely even come to be 6 inches in length. Something must have been different back when this grasshopper lived.

Photo of fossilized specimen:



FOSSILIZED SPIDERS: *Mygalomorph Tarantula*

RECOVERED-LOCATION: *San Luis, Argentina - Worldwide*

Megarachne servinei from the Permo-Carboniferous Bajo de Véliz Formation of San Luis Province, Argentina (32 degrees 17'S, 65 degrees 25'E), was described as a giant mygalomorph spider ('tarantula') and, with its **body length of 26 inches**, the largest known spider ever to have lived on Earth.



Its identification as a spider was based on interpretations of the shape of the carapace, the position of the eye tubercle, the anterior protrusion of the carapace as a pair of chelicerae, and the posterior circular structure as the abdomen. X-radiography revealed possible morphology hidden in the matrix: cheliceral fangs, sternum, labium and coxae, and so a reconstruction of Megarachne as a giant spider was presented. Difficulties with the interpretation (unusual cuticular ornament, suture dividing the carapace and spade-like anterior border of the chelicera), together with non-preservation of synapomorphies of Araneae, provoked debate about its interpretation as a spider. Such debates stem from dogmatic scientific views and are often very harmful to the learning process. As so far identified, over 88 percent of the fossilized creature share identical

traits as the order from which it is supposed to come from,
the family of spiders.

FOSSILIZED COCKROACH: *Periplaneta Americana*
Linnaeus

RECOVERED LOCATION: *Ohio, United States / South Africa*

The cockroach was found in a coal mine in eastern Ohio by Cary Easterday, a graduate student in geological science at Ohio State University. He reported the find at the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America on November 14th 2002. Measuring 10 cm, the fossil cockroach dwarfs the modern American cockroach which averages 4.5 cm in length. Although many people in urban Australia would disagree, Australian cockroaches don't grow to much larger than 4 cm. The cockroach fossil shows great detail, including veins in the insect's wings and fine bumps covering the wing surface. The antennae and legs are folded around the body of the cockroach. Mouth parts are discernible.



Raid, the popular insecticide more than likely would not have worked on the cockroaches great great grandpa's. It would be more than logical to say that the pre-flood version of cockroaches would be absolutely required to maintain the ecosystem (as disposal experts of waste of course) due to the increase of size in every other animal / organism. The bigger the other creatures, the bigger the clean-up crew (cockroaches) has to be. Again, only explainable by an increase in oxygen and pressure.

FOSSILIZED TURTLES: *Archelon*

RECOVERED LOCATION: *Too many to list*

The skeleton of the sea Turtle (Archelon) is 325 cm (12 feet 7 inches). Displayed by the Peabody Museum of Natural History at Yale University. Speculation regarding the maturity of the creature has aroused suspicion that this turtle had not yet reached adult-hood. If what some scientists say is correct, this turtle would have grown to be full sized at 36 feet 2 inches. Amazing still, most of this turtles remains are found to be intact which cannot also be said for the several of the same type found worldwide. Even with the remarkable consequences of such a find arouse a sense of fear and wonderment to all who see the relatives swimming about in ponds, lakes, and oceans. As to how the turtle could have become so large is only explainable by hyperbaric conditions.



Many reports abroad have mounted skeptics the world over that these giant turtles may still be living, or at least were living up to the point where numerous sailors documented their sighting. One of the most reliable sightings was

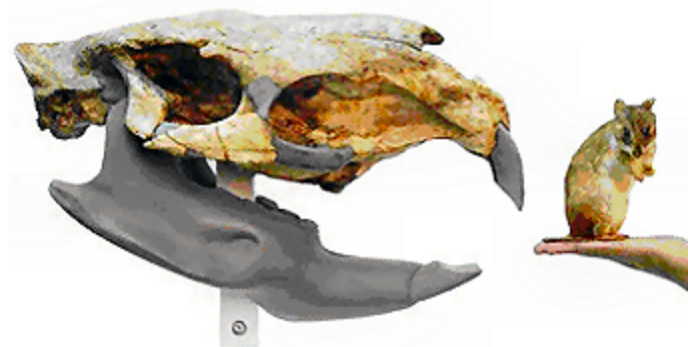
published in the Scientific American, 48: 292, 1883: Captain Augustus G. Hall and the crew of the schooner Annie L. Hall vouch for the following: On March 30, while on the Grand Bank, in latitude 40 10', longitude 33, they discovered an immense live trunk turtle, which was at first thought to be a vessel bottom up. The schooner passed within twenty-five feet of the monster, and those on board had ample opportunity to estimate its dimensions by a comparison with the length of the schooner. The turtle was at least 40 feet long, 30 feet wide, and 30 feet from the apex of the back to the bottom of the under shell. The flippers were 20 feet long. It was not deemed advisable to attempt its capture.

This story seems pretty believable. Firstly the latitude and longitude are correct (many hoaxed sea serpent sightings have been given erroneous latitudes and longitudes; one such "sighting" had coordinates that would of placed it in the middle of the Sahara desert!). Second, it seems possible for sea turtles to gain this size, if it was old enough (turtles never stop growing), but no doubt the report is likely somewhat exaggerated. Perhaps, if the sighting was real, the giant sea turtle was either an exceptionally out sized individual of sea turtle, or perhaps even a surviving Archelon, a very large turtle (but still not as large as described!) that swam the seas before the worldwide flood.

In any case, it mentions that the turtle was a trunk turtle; I have never heard of this turtle, but they are probably talking about leather back turtles, which can grow very big (but not as big as in the report), and can be found in colder waters, having appeared around England and Patagonia. Since no living specimen has been recovered, the absolute validity will remain mysterious until such an event occurs. However, the fossilized remains prove the Bible to be accurate again.

FOSSILIZED MOUSE: *Jospehoartigasia Monesi*
RECOVERED LOCATION: *River Plate Estuary, Uruguay*

Hidden away in a dark corner of the storage vaults of the Natural History and Anthropology museum in Uruguay, lay the huge skull of a preflood mammal that scientists claim belonged to a rodent the size of a bull. The fossil, consisting of the upper portions of a skull, was discovered 20 years ago (1988) in the River Plate estuary by a Uruguayan fossil collector. It was donated to the museum but lay in storage until museum curator Andres Rinderknecht and researcher Ernesto Blanco decided to study it. Their findings have just been published in the proceedings of the British Royal Society B: Biological Sciences and estimates for this animal give it an approximate length of 3 meters (about 10 feet) and perhaps a body weight close to 1,000 kilos (2204 lbs). Such estimates have to be treated with a degree of caution, as it can be difficult to determine body size from only partial remains, particularly if there are few existent genera to make a direct comparison with.



Large animals tend to have disproportionately smaller heads when compared to the body masses of more diminutive creatures so the estimates for this new animal - named *Jospehoartigasia monesi* are based on scientific deduction. If

other fossils of an adult can be found such as limb bones then perhaps a more accurate assessment can be made.

The picture depicts the rodent skull compared with a typical rodent of today. The parts modelled in grey provide a reconstruction of the entire skull, as can be seen the lower jaw and the incisors are missing. This fossil may well represent the largest rodent known to date, although the rodent *Phoberomys pattersoni* from the Miocene of Brazil and Venezuela may also have been around the same size but perhaps with a longer tail, we are still dealing with gigantic rodents; thanks to the air.

FOSSILIZED SQUIRELS: *Tamiasciurus Hudsonicus*
RECOVERED LOCATION: *Too many to list*

From the get go the discoveries of these animals sounds like one of those 1960's Giant Attacking Animal pictures, but there have been a number of reports that these furry little critters will take advantage of a change in diet when the opportunity presents itself. Tree squirrels, ground squirrels, and chipmunks have all been noted to eat birds, lizards, snakes, amphibians, rodents, rabbits, other squirrels, fish, and crabs. These incidents have occurred everywhere from North America to the tropics. Not only have fossilized remains of "larger than average" squirrels been found around the world, but they have the same bone structure of the squirrels running around outside of your house today. It's not a different species, it's the same species only just larger than the present squirrels.



These enormous squirrels weigh in at around 5.4 lbs with an astounding body length of **28 inches and a height of 32.2 inches**. If your memory serves you correctly, the last time you saw a living squirrel it was around the average size having a body length of 7.4 inches and a height of about 9

inches. How would you like this one digging through your trash can?

FOSSILIZED BIRDS: *Teratorn (Hawk)*

RECOVERED LOCATION: *Portland, Oregon / Argentina*

In the flood plain of the Willamette Valley near Portland, Oregon at a place called Mill Creek Park a large bone was found that the excavators first identified as the leg bone of an elk. However, further examination revealed it to be the upper wing bone of a bird. The size of the bone meant that the wing span of the bird would had to have been well over twelve feet, and probably closer to fourteen to sixteen feet. Other recovered elements include both quadrates and other cranial bones, partial dentaries, partial sternum and other partial post-cranial bones, and a series of cervical and thoracic vertebrae. Given the size of the bones even the giant condor was small compared to this specimen.

This is the upper wing bone:



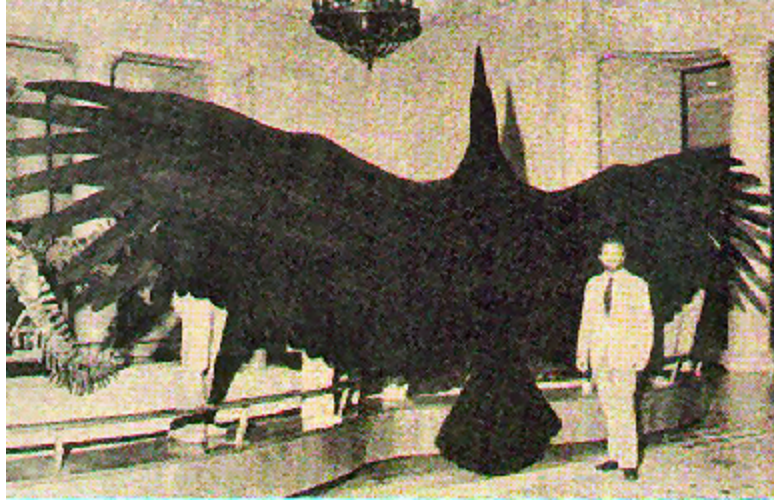
Finding a bird bone in such good condition is of particular significance because bird bones don't usually last as long as mammal bones. In order to fly, birds need to be as light as possible, and their bones are usually very thin and fragile. The bones of a horse or bear need to be strong to carry the weight of these large animals, so they are more likely to survive predation, deposit, and burial. The very notion that this bird and the many others like it found around the world simply being involved in "land slides" is illogical. Birds maintain the fortuitous skill of escaping ground predators,

not to mention danger in general offered from ground dwelling animals.

A recreation of the entire skeleton of the bird:



It was conventionally thought by scholars the world over that the “Myths” that several (if not all) cultures maintained and held to be true when it came to “Giant Birds” were mere story telling used to keep their children from wandering off from home. However, with the 14 discoveries of such fossils studied thus far, the worlds cultural myths are being proven to be undeniable when it comes to the “Great Terror in the Sky.” Consequently the scholars who held this idea of these birds being articles of fiction no longer hold their “scholarship.” Archaeologist Alison Stenger (in the picture), the project leader at the excavation site, took the bones to the La Brea Tar Pits and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (the worlds largest museum collection of Teratorn fossils) to compare them to their collection of bird skeletons. They identified the bones as that of a Teratorn. **These large birds had very large wing spans (16-18 feet)**, and, though they could weigh over 170 pounds, they could still fly with their **26-31 inch long feathers** adorning their wings.



A similar Teratorn specimen found in Argentina has the largest wingspan of any known bird, at over twenty-four feet.

FOSSILIZED DRAGONFLY: *Megalunera*

RECOVERED LOCATION: *Africa, Europe, America, Canada*

While left largely out of the consideration of beauty, the dragonfly is a wholly remarkable creature. Although not a pest, but rather a highly skilled and well equipped flying wonder would be best in describing what so many despise. With over 41 species to either love or hate, dragonflies can be found in every continent excluding the poles of course. However, despite the honest and meager size of the Common Spreadwing (*Lestes plagiatus*) weighing in at a little over 1.7 grams and with a wingspan of only 3.2 inches full grown we find the same species but yet with far greater dimensions. Could a diet of aquatic insects, tadpoles, small fish, flying insects, especially mosquitoes, but also aphids, smaller dragonflies, damselflies, and just about any other insects they can grab produce extreme dimensions like a **48 inch wingspan**? Could the maximum life expectancy of 2 years and the evasion of predators such as insect eating birds, frogs, large spiders and fish really provide the opportunity for this dragonfly to get large enough to where a 5 year old could ride it?



Or were things much different? Increased oxygen is the only evidence that we have to accurately, scientifically through the process of biological elimination of contributing growth factors to conclude the oxygen percentage was nearly triple what it now is today. What many find strange about the countless giant insects and animals recovered is that the survival rate of the other animals would be decreased if they were so much smaller seeing as the giants would need to eat more to sustain themselves. This may seem like a problem, but yet the fossil record holds its undivided answer. You have all species across the food chain with increased dimensions. Thus, by tangible evidence to vouch for over 1,400 different kinds (not species) of animals we can see this ecosystem change for the bigger was still functional and self replicating. It's amazing what oxygen did to this planet when there was more of it!

... -::[[]] 4,000 Year Old Science [[]]:: -

))Old, but Accurate((-

The Bible presents many scientific challenges. A study of the books of Genesis and Job, for instance, can bring about numerous scientific discoveries. In the past 200 years mankind has made fantastic progress in the area of science. In all that we have discovered in that time - how is it that the Bible presented the information for the discovery 4,000 years ago? During the period the Old Testament was written, ignorance, superstition and foolishness dominated the minds of ungodly men. Taking this into consideration, absence of scientific error in the Word of God is astounding, especially as one studies other ancient writings and sees the obvious scientific blunders. Keep in mind that the Bible has never been rejected on factual grounds but only by personal choice.

Now when the Bible was written, why didn't any of the erroneous beliefs of the time slip into some of its pages? Many men were involved in the writing of the Bible over a period of 20 centuries. They wrote from different countries, in different languages, and at different periods in history. Yet, through God's miraculous guidance, the Bible does not reflect the scientific inaccuracies of its era.

The book of Job is one of the most fascinating books in the Bible. It is a masterpiece in literature that has intrigued readers throughout the generations of time. Though the book is ancient, its insights are remarkably relevant to today. In addition to the multiplied historical references to creation

and the flood, there are numerous passages referring to the workings of nature, which are studied today by scientists. These portions do not contain a hint to the mythical exaggerations and errors characteristic in other ancient writings.

The seventy plus scientific questions in God's whirlwind conversation with Job (Job 38) were asked in order to expose just how limited was Job's earthly bit of knowledge. Quite a number of these questions in Job 38 have been investigated scientifically. All of the answers found so far harmonize perfectly with God's Word. Many of the questions God asked were not with the intention of receiving a reply, but were asked to prick Job's faulty perception; the only answer expected was an acknowledgment that God alone knows the explanation. Job needed humbling, and God's comparison of His knowledge with Job's was the exposure of his blindness. As Job began to recognize the greatness of God and His power, he humble himself before the Almighty.

The book of Job was not written as one of science, but as a treatise dealing with one of the most basic questions in life: "Does the God of creation care about man's pain?" However, there are a number of scientific facts mentioned in the book of Job which scientists did not discover until recent centuries. Scientific facts are found scattered throughout the Bible, but Job contains more than any other one book. This 4,000-year-old volume is filled with references to natural phenomena, and there are no mistakes nor fallacies. During a time when all sorts of myths about the creation of the earth were regarded as truth, Job wrote, "He...hangs the earth on nothing" (Job 26:7). It is believed Job lived around 2000 B.C. Unlike other ancient books, Job does not even hint at witchcraft or occult practices. Nor are there any supernatural miracles recorded there, with the exception of Job's eventual healing. (Both Job and Elihu did mention their faith in the future resurrection of the body - Job 19:26; 33:28)

This study ventures through various fields of science - and the most current knowledge. We shall see God's Word meet the test of the latest discoveries, even though they were written thousands of years ago. The Bible believer has nothing to fear when investigating the laws of biology, physics, astronomy, hydrology, meteorology, or any other discipline. God's Word harmonizes perfectly with science - or should we say science harmonizes perfectly with God's Word (since it did come first after all). When there is a discrepancy, it is science (man's understanding) which always needs modifying, and in time it will make that adjustment as it has so often in the past. The Word of God stands forever.

> > : .._The Universe:

What does it mean? Well, "uni" means single and "verse" is a spoken phrase or sentence. So we live in a "single spoken phrase". The phrase we live in is when God said "Let there be", and there was. That's what makes Him worth worshiping - He has the ability to just speak and instantly what He says happens. Who do you know can do that?

Scientific Focus:

In the beginning [**time**] God created the heavens [**space**] and the earth [**matter**].

Genesis 1:1

Everyone, including evolutionists all agree that time, space and matter had to come into existence at the same time. Otherwise, if matter and time existed but not space - where would you put the matter? The same occurrence is intact when it comes down to space and matter existing and yet lacking the existence of time - when does it exist? This reasoning is known as the space and time continuum, it's sometimes referred to as "the trinity of trinities." Space

having three forms, length, width and height. Matter being composed of three forms, solid, liquid and gas (plasma is just a hotter gas). Lastly time of course holds true to the same concept being established by the past, present and future. Is it so ironic that the first verse of the Bible pertains to such a necessary scientific fact?

> > : .._The Universe is a Continuously Spreading Expanse:

"And God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day" (Gen 1:8).
"Then God said, 'Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night...and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens....'And God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light..." (Gen 1:14,15.17)

In the Hebrew, "expanse" (NAS) or "firmament" (KJV) can be interpreted to mean "spreading out", as with metal when it is continuously beaten with a hammer. Thus, the word "firmament" is defined as a "spreading out expanse" which implies a continuous process and that no limit has yet been reached. The Hebrew verbs are in imperfect form, indicating continuous action. (This word is used in the Bible only in connection with the physical heavens.)

Genesis seems to be stating the physical heaven is made up of a continuously spreading expanse; perhaps God is still stretching out the heavens. The book of Jeremiah says men cannot complete the measurement of the heavens (Jer. 31:37); maybe this is because the universe is still expanding.

"...He stretches out the heavens like a tent..." (Psa. 104:2)

"...He stretches out the heavens like a canopy..." (Isa. 40:22)

"...He alone stretches out the heavens..." (Job 9:8)

Job seems to compare the infinitude of God with the height of the heavens: "Can you fathom the mysteries of God? Can you probe the limits of the Almighty?" They are higher than the heavens..." (Job 11:7,8) This implies the heavens are unbounded, exactly as 20th Century astrophysics indicates. Modern astronomy does not limit the extent of the heavens. This coincides with the Word of God. But it wasn't until man had the aid of modern instruments that he changed his view of the universe from finite to infinite, concluding the universe is ever-expanding. "The heavens declare the glory of God" (Psa. 19:1).

> > : .._Vastness of the Universe:

The vastness of the universe is mind-boggling. Since it is too difficult to measure star distances in miles, scientists use the speed of light, 186,000 miles per second, to measure the enormous expanses in the universe. To put it simply, light travels around the earth 7.5 times per second. To put the speed of light into "light minutes," one multiplies 186,000 times 60: to calculate "light years" one multiplies 186,000 by the number of seconds in a year. Traveling at the speed of light it would take just eight minutes to get from earth to the sun (93 million miles away); so our sun is eight light minutes away.

The span between earth and the nearest star, Alpha Centauri, is nearly 4.5 light years - or 24,000,000,000,000 miles. Even the distance to this nearest star is so great it is hard to imagine. It would take out fastest space craft some 40,000 years to reach Alpha Centauri. Our galaxy, the Milky Way, is so immense light would take 100,000 years to go from one edge to the other. The distance to the farthest known object in space, a quasar named OQ172 is 17,000 million light years away. This is nearly sextillion miles, or 66,000 times the 93 million miles between the earth and the sun. Yet God, "...with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens..." (Isaiah 40:12). God measures the heavens with

His Hand like we measure a room by stepping it off with our feet. That's a big hand.

> > : .._Innumerable Stars?:

Looking up at the night sky, one can see the heavens filled with stars. In 150 B.C. Hipparchus counted less than 3,000 stars; Ptolemy (A.D. 150) counted 1,058; Kepler (1571-1630) counted 1,005; Tycho Brahe cataloged 777. Finally, in 1609 Galileo turned his invention, the telescope, toward the heavens and realized that the stars were innumerable. Today scientists estimate that there are over 100 billion stars in our galaxy commonly called the Milky Way. But what does the Bible say? "And as the stars cannot be counted nor the sand upon the seashores measured, so the descendants of David my servant and the line of the Levites who minister to me will be multiplied." (Jer. 33:22) Saying it again: "And so a whole nation came from Abraham, who was too old to have even one child - a nation with many millions of people that, like the stars of the sky and the sand on the ocean shores, there is no way to count them." (Hebrews 11:12). Each of the above passages maintains the stars in the universe are as innumerable as the grains of sand on all the earth's seashores. This harmonizes with today's astronomers' estimation of 40 sextillion stars in the universe.

Observable space may only be a tiny speck of what lies beyond in unobservable space. No wonder the psalmist says: "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot attain to it." (Psalm 139:6)

> > : .._Stars Emit Sound:

"Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me if you know so much. Do you know how its dimensions were determined, and who did the surveying? What supports its foundations, and who laid its cornerstone, as the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?" (Job 38:4-7)

The Hebrew word for sand is "renan"; it means the emitting of a loud, shrill or piercing sound. The above verse then, is declaring stars emit loud, shrill sounds which are audible. There was "singing" during the creation week. The statements made regarding the stars in the book of Job, written some 4,000 years ago, are remarkably accurate. In 1942 the U.S. Army scientists were testing radar equipment. Their receivers picked up some extremely high-pitched noises of such intensity the sets could not be properly operated. They discovered this was not jamming created by the German military defenses, but high frequency noises from stars.

The discovery of the radio telescope, which measures sonic signals from distant galaxies, has given us a clearer understanding of what Job may have been saying. These radio telescopes are designed to track and identify stars which can't be seen by conventional optic telescopes by receiving sound waves they emit. Amazingly, the sound the stars make over the radio telescopes is a shrill noise, just as the book of Job states. Scientists recently captured the shrill "singing" of the stars, and replayed it on the nightly news.

> > : .._Stars Differ:

Today, by both sound and light waves, stars are being identified and cataloged. Stars are as different from each other as fingerprints. It is not surprising God, too, identifies each star. "The angels in heaven have bodies far different from ours, and the beauty and the glory of their bodies is different from the beauty and the glory of ours. The sun has one kind of glory while the moon and stars have another kind. And the stars differ from each other in their beauty and brightness" (1 Corinthians 15:40-41) "He counts the stars and calls them all by name" (Psalms 147:4). If God has a name for every star in the universe, which will in time vanish in the fiery holocaust, then how much more of an interest does He have in man - who has an eternal soul? He writes

our names in the palms of His hands (Isaiah 49:16). That's how important to Him that we are.

> > : .._The Earth Is Round:

It is not surprising to find the Hebrews were the only ancient people who were taught the earth was round and not flat. The Hebrew word khug is translated "circle"; however, a more exact connotation would be "spherical" or "roundness". Why were they taught this? Because it was in their Scriptures: "When He established the heavens, I was there, When He inscribed a circle on the face of the deep.." (Proverbs 8:27). Also in Isaiah 40:22 "It is God who sits above the circle of the earth..." Though the book of Isaiah was written approximately 2,700 years ago, as recently as 500 years ago even educated men believed the earth to be flat.

Ancient philosophers and scientists had their own versions of how the heavens and earth were created. One believed the earth was shaped like a table; another, it was shaped like a drum; and still another, the world rested on the head and shoulders of Atlas. Such men as Aristotle and Plato thought the earth was a living thing, and volcanoes were the result of its vomiting. It wasn't until the 15th century men finally believed the earth to be round. Man didn't have to wait until 1492, when Columbus sailed the ocean blue, to find out the earth was not flat. God's Word had contained this truth all along.

> > : .._Snowflakes:

Have you ever looked closely at a snowflake before? You probably couldn't tell with your bare eyes that it is remarkably symmetrical in its every shape and form. Not any two are completely identical either. Science could not discover these characteristics about snow until the microscope was invented. Yet, the Bible for some reason relates snow to "treasures":

Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail? (Job 38:22) Here, it may be referring to the snow crystal's incredibly complex visible beauty and fractal uniqueness. But it may also be an indication of its natural value, just as it is signified in the verse below: For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater... (Isaiah 55:10)

Today it is understood that snowfall indeed nourishes the earth's soil by contributing the nitrate crucial to the development of plants. This part of the plant growth cycle was not revealed by science until the 20th century... but it was in the Bible all along... In all observation of our planet's atmosphere, certainly snow is not the only of all "treasures", but every single detail and precision of all formations and courses allowing for the sustenance of life.

> > : .._Human Body:

"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'" (Gen 1:26) For beauty the human body is unmatched. As a machine, it is the pinnacle of God's creative work. Chemically, the body is unequaled in complexity. Each one of its 100 trillion cells is a mini chemical factory performing about 10,000 chemical functions. Every cell has 10 to the 12th (one trillion) bits of data - equal to the number of letters in ten million books. In addition, each cell replaces itself every seven years. And each cell is independent, yet cooperates with many millions of other cells.

The human body reveals incredible engineering. It is able to receive communication through five senses. It can thread a needle and perform delicate surgery, as well as lift a trunk. Its joints are self-lubricating and self-repairing. It contains a

chemical plant much more complex and more efficient than anything man has ever built. It has a cooling and heating system to maintain the temperature within a fraction of a degree, except when a higher temperature is needed to fight disease. All the parts of the body, billions of them, work together as a team.

The human body is amazing, not because of its excellently engineered structures and mechanisms - such as bones, joints, muscles, communications networks and circulatory systems - but also because of the many sophisticated control systems regulating all the bodily functions. In general, these control systems use the principle of negative feedback: this is basic to the control mechanisms designed by engineers for use in automobiles, air-conditioning systems, and manufacturing plants. Physiologist (one who studies life processes, activities and functions) David A. Kaufman lists ten different classes of control systems in the human body:

- Thermostat System (controls internal environment homeostasis)
- Nervous System (communication)
- Hormone System (chemical clock)
- Contractile System (muscular control)
- Circulatory System (circulation control)
- Respiratory System (breathing control)
- Electrolyte System (power control)
- Digestion/Absorption System (food control)
- Metabolic System (producing energy from food)
- Regeneration/Reproduction System

About (what most experts of genealogy say) fifty billion humans have been born since Adam: and even though there are about eight billion alive today, the human body is still extremely valuable. If the chemical elements could be

extracted from the body and sold on the open market, an average-sized human would cost as much as nine million dollars at present rates. Of course, spiritually, man is infinitely priceless. If all the DNA in your body were placed end-to-end, it would stretch from here to the Moon more than 500,000 times! In book form, that information would completely fill the Grand Canyon more than 75 times! Yet, if one set of DNA (one cell's worth) from every person who ever lived were placed in a pile, the final pile would weigh less than an aspirin!...Center for Scientific Creation. Understanding DNA is just one small reason for believing you are "fearfully and wonderfully made." (Psalms 139:14)

> > : .._Fingerprints:

In 1905, Scotland Yard in England launched into a new era of scientific detection. At a murder trial, Detective Inspector Stockley Sollins explained to the jury that skin patterns could provide up to 20 characteristics on a single finger. Over 10 years he had examined a million fingerprints, and never found more than three identical characteristics on the fingers of any two people. Of the over 200 million fingerprints now on file with the FBI, there are no two alike. Every man, then, has a seal - an imprint on his hand - which can show other men crimes he has committed. In ancient China legal documents and agreements made between a number of individuals were verified by thumb prints on the document by all the agreeing parties. The same methods are shared by several cultures throughout the world widely used as a preventative measure of forgery. The book of Job tells us this amazing fact many thousands of years before Scotland Yard discovered it to be true. Yet again what the Word of God foretold so many years ago when it was given to man: "He (God) sealeth up the hand of every man, that all men may know his work (good deeds, bad deeds i.e. murder)." (Job 37:7) In the Scriptures, how obvious this is but in the

understanding of it completely the requirement was fingerprinting.

Other things the Bible said 4,000 years ago:

Subject Discovered Biblical Ref.

Telephone 65 Y.A. Job 38:35
Solar Winds 20 Y.A. Job 38:24
Subterranean Water 6 Y.A. Gen 1:7
Genetics (Embryos x+y) 200 Y.A. Gen 3:15
Circular Earth 500 Y.A. Isa 40:22 Prov. 8:27
Medical Hand washing 163 Y.A. Lev 15:7
Moon does not shine 400 Y.A. Job 25:5
Earth hangs on nothing 507 Y.A. Job 26:7
Canopy of Water 18 Y.A. Gen 1:7
Sanitation 800 Y.A. Lev 11:36
Stars Singing 74 Y.A. Job 38:7
Planetary Orbits 400 Y.A. Psl 19:6
Same Blood in everyone 107 Y.A. Act 17:26
Bloodletting is Unhealthy 600 Y.A. Lev 17:11
Birth Defects 400 Y.A. Lev 18:6
Oceanic Currents 200 Y.A. Psl 8:8
Snow Flakes 100 Y.A. Job 38:22
Springs of the Sea 40 Y.A. Job 38:16
Dust of the Earth 200 Y.A. Ish 40:12
Enormous Fruit 120 Y.A. Num 13:23
Light Spectrum 160 Y.A. Job 38:19, 24
Atomical Cohesion 42 Y.A. Col 1:17
Stars Emit Sound 66 Y.A. Job 38:4-7

The Bible is not a textbook on Astrology, Biology, Ecology, Geology, Climatology, Botany, History, Language, Mathematics, Nuclear Physics, Paleontology or Theology. However, wherever and whenever it talks about these fields of science, the Bible will be accurate.

The Bible is not a science book, yet it is scientifically accurate. No one verse in it is of any scientific evidence that contradicts the Bible. The most common rebuttal for this statement is "miracles can't happen, and are not scientifically possible" - however, this common categorical error so many make without actually looking at the cause of the event (miracle) which always results in "God's Will" as the defining factor for the event to even occur. I have listed statements in this door that are consistent with known scientific facts. Many of them were listed in the Bible four thousand years before being recorded elsewhere. Many concepts and notes on this page are adapted from ideas and statements that appear in The Defender's Study Bible.

> > : .._Statements Consistent With Paleontology:

Dinosaurs are referred to in several Bible books, 35 verses reference or mention them directly by bodily descriptions and even in detail in the Catholic Bible located in Daniel 14-15. With the 35 verses added to the Catholic Bible the total number of times the "Bible" speaks of dinosaurs comes to 118 times total even though Protestants deny the 14th and 15th chapters of the book of Daniel. The book of Job describes two dinosaurs. One is described in chapter 40 starting at verse 15, and the other in chapter 41 starting at verse 1-34. Most would think to agree that 1½ chapters about dinosaurs is a lot-since most people do not even realize that they are mentioned in the Bible. (Actually reading the Bible would help, though.) For more on this subject see Doors 33, 34, and 37.

> > : .._Statements Consistent With Astronomy:

The Bible describes the precision of movement in the universe. Just look at Jeremiah 31:35,36. "Thus says the LORD,Who gives the sun for a light by day, The ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night,Who disturbs

the sea,And its waves roar (The LORD of hosts is His name):
"If those ordinances depart From before Me, says the LORD,
Then the seed of Israel shall also cease From being a nation
before Me forever."

> > : .._Statements Consistent With Biology:

Leviticus 17:11 - "For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul."

The blood carries water and nourishment to every cell, maintains the body's temperature, and removes the waste material of the body's cells. The blood also carries oxygen from the lungs throughout the body. Over the course of seven years every blood cell is replaced by a new cell, just like every single cell in the body. In 1616, William Harvey discovered that blood circulation is the key factor in physical life-confirming what the Bible revealed 3,000 years earlier. Subsequently the reasoning behind the death of a one George Washington as many others was at the negligence of the barbers who were the "blood letters" in those days. While many never read the Bible much less believe what it says - it does seem rather odd that such a life saving truth would be held by the widely hated book that would have dispelled the confusion of an age old practice. Not to mention, save a multitude of lives in the process.

>>The Bible describes biogenesis (the development of living organisms from other living organisms) and the stability of each kind of living organism.

Genesis 1:11,12

Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so.

And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:21

So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:25

And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

- More on this subject can be found in Door 36 and 32.

The phrase “according to its kind” occurs repeatedly, stressing the reproductive integrity of each kind of animal and plant. Today we know this occurs because all of these reproductive systems are programmed by their genetic codes.

>>The Bible describes the chemical nature of flesh.

Genesis 2:7

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

It is a proven fact that a person’s mental and spiritual health is strongly correlated with physical health.

The Bible revealed this to us with these statements (and others) written by King Solomon about 950 BC.

Proverbs 12:4

An excellent wife is the crown of her husband,
But she who causes shame is like rottenness in his bones.

Proverbs 14:30

A sound heart is life to the body,
But envy is rottenness to the bones.

Proverbs 15:30

The light of the eyes rejoices the heart,
And a good report makes the bones healthy.

Proverbs 16:24

Pleasant words are like a honeycomb,
Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

Proverbs 17:22

A merry heart does good, like medicine,
But a broken spirit dries the bones.

> > : .._Statements Consistent With Anthropology:

We have cave paintings and other evidence that people inhabited caves. The Bible also describes cave men.

Job 30:5,6 "They were driven out from among men, They shouted at them as at a thief. They had to live in the clefts of the valleys, In caves of the earth and the rocks. "

Note that these were not ape-men, but descendants of those who scattered from Babel - and in some cases as it implies that these people could have very well be criminals. They were driven from the community by those tribes who competed successfully for the more desirable regions of the earth. Then for some reason they deteriorated mentally, physically, and spiritually.(Go into a bad part of your town and you will see this concept in action today, replaced by spray paint instead of charcoal and make shift herb paints.)

> > : .._Statements Consistent With Physics:

The Bible suggests the presence of nuclear processes like those we associate with nuclear weaponry. This is certainly not something that could have been explained in 67 AD using known scientific principles (when Peter wrote the following verse).

2Peter 3:10 "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. "

The television is a practical (if not always worthwhile ;-)) device that uses electromagnetic waves (which transmit its video signal). The Bible contains passages that describe something like television; something that allows everyone on earth see a single event. (Note: such passages typically refer to the end of time. It may not be long before all of us learn for sure whether the Bible is true or not.)

Matthew 24:30 "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."

Revelation 11:9-11 "Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth. Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them."

> > : .._Things in the Bible that Science Can't Explain:

The purpose of this page is not to explain what a great science text the Bible is, but to show that it is consistent with scientific facts. Still, the Bible mentions some things that we can not explain. Yet, if God is really God, He should have the ability to do some things we can not explain.

In the last 100 years (and especially in the last ten) scientists discovered many proofs that confirm the Bible's accuracy. Since these proofs support the accuracy of the text we can understand scientifically, it makes sense to trust the Bible's text that we can not yet understand. (For example, how many people knew what hydrothermal vents were 30 years ago?) If you would like to see the proof we have for the accuracy of the Bible, click on the link below.

If you like reading books, a good one that addresses the facts that support Christianity is "Know Why You Believe" by Paul Little. There is an advantage to a book - it does not change as a page on the Internet can. Plus, a million copies of Paul Little's book have been printed (about 40 times the number required to be called a "best seller") which proves it is not an isolated person's opinion. More information on the authenticity of the Bible can be found in the next door, Door 39 and 40.

...-::[[]] Misunderstanding the Bible? [[]]::- -

))Find the Answers((

How do people misunderstand what is meant by the inspiration of the Bible? The Bible is inspired by God with regard to everything it teaches, God is not the author of confusion - Satan is. With that being said the nature of Satan is "like a lion, a thief, the destroyer" while his enemy is all those "made in the image of God" (all people), it's obvious to see why some are a little confused. They're under attack. The greatest victory Satan can have over anyone is to confuse them, and draw their interest away from finding the answers to solve their confusion. As mentioned earlier about absolute truth, some just get overwhelmed and fail to realize what to think because they don't investigate in a thorough manner. Leaving themselves (by fault of themselves) in the constant suspense of not knowing. The things so confusing they find are simply answered in the Bible, they would find solace if they would just open it and read.

> > : .._Common Misunderstandings:

- > That every part of a parable has to convey a fact rather than help the parable illustrate its point. (Luke 18:2)
- > That everything it records is true rather than something merely taught or implied. (Genesis 3:4)
- > That no exaggerations (hyperboles) are used. (Psalm 6:6, Luke 14:26)

- > That all statements about God and creation are purely literal. (Job 38:7, Hebrews 4:13)
- > That all factual assertions are technically precise by modern standards as opposed to accurate by ancient standards. (2 Chronicles 4:2)
- > That all statements about the universe must come out of a modern astronomical perspective as opposed to a common observational standpoint. (Joshua 10:12)
- > That all citations of Scripture must be verbatim as opposed to faithful to the meaning. (Psalm 2:1, and Acts 4:25)
- > That all citations of scripture must have the same application as the original (Hosea 11:1, and Matthew 2:15) rather than the same interpretation (meaning).
- > That the same truth can be said in only one way as opposed to many ways, as it is in the Gospels.
- > That whatever a writer personally believed, as opposed to merely what he actually affirmed in scripture is true. (Matthew 15:26)
- > That truth is exhaustively revealed or treated as opposed to adequately presented in the Bible. (1 Corinthians 13:12)
- > That quotations imply the truth of everything in the source it is citing rather than just the part cited. (Titus 1:12)
- > That a particular grammatical construction will always be the customary one rather than an adequate one to convey the truth.

> > : .._ **Does God exist?:**

We know God exists because he pursues us. He is constantly initiating and seeking for us to come to him. I was an atheist at one time. And like most atheists, the issue of people believing in God bothered me greatly. What is it about atheists that we would spend so much time, attention, and

energy refuting something that we don't believe even exists?! What causes us to do that? When I was an atheist, I attributed my intentions as caring for those poor, delusional people...to help them realize their hope was completely ill-founded. To be honest, I also had another motive. As I challenged those who believed in God, I was deeply curious to see if they could convince me otherwise. Part of my quest was to become free from the question of God. If I could conclusively prove to believers that they were wrong, then the issue is off the table, and I would be free to go about my life. (For more in-depth information that verifies the existence of God see Door 10.)

I didn't realize that the reason the topic of God weighed so heavily on my mind, was because God was pressing the issue. I have come to find out that God wants to be known. He created us with the intention that we would know him. He has surrounded us with evidence of himself and he keeps the question of his existence squarely before us. It was as if I couldn't escape thinking about the possibility of God. In fact, the day I chose to acknowledge God's existence, my prayer began with, "Ok, you win..." It might be that the underlying reason atheists are bothered by people believing in God is because God is actively pursuing them.

I am not the only one who has experienced this. Malcolm Muggeridge, socialist and philosophical author, wrote, "I had a notion that somehow, besides questing, I was being pursued." C.S. Lewis said he remembered, "...night after night, feeling whenever my mind lifted even for a second from my work, the steady, unrelenting approach of Him whom I so earnestly desired not to meet. I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps, that night, the most dejected and reluctant convert in all of England."

Lewis went on to write a book titled, "Surprised by Joy" as a result of knowing God. I too had no expectations other than

rightfully admitting God's existence. Yet over the following several months, I became amazed by his love for me, constantly teaching while revealing more and more with every waking moment.

> > : .._Who Made God?:

Who made God? No one did. He was not made. He has always existed. Only things that had a beginning - like the world - need a maker. God had no beginning, so God did not need to be made. For those who are a little older, a little more can be said. Traditionally most atheists who deny the existence of God believe that the universe was not made; it was just "there" forever. They appeal to the first law of thermodynamics for support: "Energy can neither be created nor destroyed" they insist. Several things must be observed in response.

First, this way of stating the first law is not scientific; rather, it is a philosophical assertion. Science is based on observation, and there is no observational evidences that can support the dogmatic "can" and "cannot" implicit in this statement. It should read, "[As far as we have observed,] the amount of actual energy in the universe remains constant." That is, no one had observed any actual new energy either coming into existence or going out of existence. Once the first law is understood properly, it says nothing about the universe being eternal or having no beginning . As far as the first law is concerned, energy may or may not have been created. It simply asserts that if energy was created, then as far as we can tell, the actual amount of energy that was created has remained constant since then.

Further, let us suppose for the sake of argument that energy - the whole universe of energy we call the cosmos - was not created, as many atheists have traditionally believed. If this is so, it is meaningless to ask who made the universe. If energy is eternal and uncreated, of course no one created it. It has always existed. However, if it is meaningless to ask,

"Who made the universe?" since it has always existed, then it is equally meaningless to ask "Who made God?" since he has always existed.

If the universe is not eternal, it needs a cause. On the other hand, if it has no beginning, it does not need a cause of its beginning. Likewise, if a God exists who has no beginning, it is absurd to ask, "Who made God?" It is a category mistake to ask, "Who made the Unmade?" or "Who created the Uncreated?" One may as well ask, "Where is the bachelor's wife?"

> > : .._How can God make something out of nothing?:

If God and nothing else existed prior to the creation of the world, the universe came into existence from nothing. But isn't it absurd to say that something can come from nothing? It is absurd to say that nothing cause something because nothing does not exist and has no power to do anything. But it is not absurd to say that someone (i.e. God) brought the universe into existence from nonexistence. Nothing cannot make something but someone (i.e. God) can make something out of nothing.

In fact, if the universe had a beginning (as demonstrated earlier), then there was once no universe and then there was - after God created it. This is what is meant by creation "out of nothing" (Latin, ex nihilo). It does not mean that God took a "handful of nothing" and made something out of it, as though "nothing" were something out of which he made the world. There was God and simply nothing else. Then God brought something else into existence that had not existed to that point.

Or to put it another way, creation "out of nothing" simply means that God did not create out of something else that which already existed alongside himself, as in certain forms of dualism in which there are two eternal substances of entities. This is really creation, ex materia, that is out of some

preexisting matter outside of God. The Greek philosopher Plato held this view.

Neither did God create the world out of himself (i.e., *ex Deo*). That is, God did not take part of himself and make the world out of it. In fact, the orthodox Christian God has no parts. He is a simple whole that is absolutely one. Thus there is no way God could have taken part of himself and made the world. God is infinite and the world is finite. And no amount of finite parts can make an infinite, since no matter how many parts or pieces one has, there could always be one more. But there cannot be more than an infinite. Hence, no amount of parts would ever equal an infinite. So God could not have created the world out of part of himself (i.e., *ex materia*).

The world came from God but is not of God. He was its cause but not its substance. It came into existence by him, but it is not made of him. However, if the world was not created out of God (*ex deo*) or out of something else (*ex materia*) existing alongside God, it must have been created out of nothing (*ex nihilo*). There is no other alternative. God made something that before he made it did not exist, either in him or in anything else. The only place the world "existed" before God made it was in an idea in God's mind. Just as a painter has an idea of his painting in his mind before he paints it, so God had an idea of the world before he made it. In this sense, the world preexisted in God's mind as an idea before he brought it into existence.

> > : .._What was God doing before he made the world?:

Another tough question often asked about God this one is. The famous fifth-century A.D. Christian teacher Augustine had two answers to this question, one humorous and one serious. The first answer was that God was spending his time preparing hell for people who ask questions like this! The serious answer was that God didn't have any time on his hands, since there was no time before time was created.

Time began with creation. Before creation, time did not exist. So there was no time for God to have on his hands. The world did not begin by a creation in time but by a creation of time. But, you may think if there was no time before time began, what was there? The answer is, eternity. God is eternal, and the only thing prior to time was eternity. Further, the question implies that an infinitely perfect being like God could get bored. Boredom, however, is a sign of imperfection and dissatisfaction, and God is perfectly satisfied. Thus, there is no way God could be bored, even if he had long time periods on his hands. An infinitely creative mind can always find something interesting to do. Only finite minds that run out of interesting things to do get bored.

> > : .._How can a good God send people to hell?:

This question assumes that God sends people to hell against their will. But this is not the case. God desires everyone to be saved (see 2 Peter 3:9). Those who are not saved do not will to be saved. Jesus said, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing" (Matthew 23:37).

As C.S. Lewis put it, "The door of hell is locked on the inside." All who go there choose to do so, Lewis added: "There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, 'Thy will be done', and those to whom God says, in the end, 'Thy will be done.' All that are in hell, choose it." Lewis believed "without that self-choice there could be no hell. No soul that seriously and constantly desires joy will ever miss it. Those who seek find. To those who knock it is opened."

Furthermore, heaven would be hell for those who are not fitted for it. For heaven is a place of constant praise and worship of God (Revelation 4-5) But for unbelievers who do

not enjoy one hour of worship a week on earth, it would be hell to force them to do this forever in heaven! Hear Lewis again: "I would pay any price to be able to say truthfully 'All will be saved.'" But my reason retorts, 'Without their will, or with it?' If I say 'Without their will,' I at once perceive a contradiction; how can the supreme voluntary act of self-surrender be involuntary? If I say 'With their will,' my reason replies 'How if they will not give in?'"

God is just and he must punish sin (Habakkuk 1:13, Revelation 20:11-15). But he is also love (1 John 4:16), and his love cannot force others to love him. Love cannot work coercively but only persuasively. Forced love is a contradiction in terms. Hence, God's love demands that there be a hell where persons who do not wish to love him can experience the great divorce when God says to them, "Thy will be done!"

> > : .._How can God be both loving and just?:

It would seem that love and justice are incompatible attributes. If God is just, he must punish sin. But if he is loving, he would forgive sin. How then can he be both? The attributes (characteristics) of God are not contradictory. He is both absolutely just and yet unconditionally loving. Each attribute complements the other. God is "justly holy" and "holy just." That is, his justice is administered in love, and his love is distributed justly. The perfect example of how God's love and justice kiss in the cross. In his love, God sent his Son to pay the penalty for our sins so that his justice could be satisfied and his love released. For "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). And sin against the eternal God demands eternal death (see Revelation 20:14-15). So when Christ died for our sins (see Romans 5:8), the Just suffered for the unjust (see 1 Peter 3:18) that he might bring us to God. "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

God's justice demands that sin be punished, but his love compels him to save sinners. So by Christ's death for us his justice is satisfied and his love released. Thus, there is no contradiction between absolute justice and unconditional love. To illustrate, God is like the judge who, after passing out the punishment to the guilty defendant, laid aside his robe, stood alongside the convicted, and paid the fine for him. Jesus did the same for us on Calvary. Surely justice and mercy kissed at the cross.

> > : .._Does the Bible have errors in it?:

The original text of the Bible does not teach any error. The logic of the Bible's errorlessness is straightforward: 1> God cannot make errors (Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18) 2> the Bible is God's Word (John 10:34-35) 3> therefore, the Bible cannot contain error. Since the Scriptures are breathed out by God (2 Timothy 3:16-17) and God cannot breathe out falsehood, it follows that the Bible cannot contain any falsehood. If the object of one's thinking revolves around the concept of there not being any absolute truth then of course one will doubt anything and everything is simply not true. That is the base mentality for questions like "Does the Bible have errors in it?" - even so after finding out that the Bible states it has no errors and is flawless one still thinks it's false; then how can that one say "There is absolute truth;" when they have obviously denied it?

> > : .._Are there errors in the Bible manuscripts and translations?:

There are some minor copyist errors in the Bible manuscripts. A couple examples will suffice. The Masoretic Text of 2 Chronicles 22:2 says Ahaziah was forty-two, yet 2 Kings 8:26 asserts that Ahaziah was twenty-two. He could have not have been forty-two (a copyist error), or he would have been older than his father. Also, 2 Chronicles 9:25 affirms that Solomon had four thousand horse stalls, but the

Masoretic Text of 1 Kings 4:26 says he had forty thousand horse stalls, which would have been way more than needed for twelve thousand horsemen he had. It is important to keep these things in mind with regard to these copyist errors:

- - No original manuscript has ever been found with an error in it.
- - They are relatively rare.
- - In most cases we know which one is wrong from the context of the material found in parallel passages.
- - In no case is the doctrine of Scripture affected.
- - They vouch for the accuracy of the copying process, since the scribes who copied them knew there were errors in the manuscripts but they were duty bound to copy what the text said.
- - They don't affect the central message of the Bible.

Someone may, in fact, receive a message with errors in it, yet have 100 percent of the message come through clearly. For example, suppose you received a message from Western Union that read as follows: "Y#u have won 20 million dollars." No doubt you would gladly pick up your money. And if the telegram read in any of the ways that follow, you would have no doubt at all:

- - Yo# have won 20 million dollars."
- - You #ave won 20 million dollars."
- - You h#ve won 20 million dollars."

Why would we be more sure if there are more errors? Because each error is in a different place, and with it we get another confirmation of every other letter in the original

message. Three things are important to note First, even with one line, error and all, 100 percent of the message comes through. Second, the more lines, the more errors - but the more errors, the more sure we are of what the intended message really was. It's a little heavy, so take some time to think this one over. Finally, there are hundreds of times more Bible manuscripts than there are lines in the above example. And there is a greater percentage of error in this telegram than in all the collated biblical manuscripts. Now you have it.

> > : .._Where did the Bible come from?:

The Holy Bible is a phenomenal account of history, comprised of 66 books, written over approximately 1600 years, by at least 40 distinct authors. The Old Testament (Old Covenant) contains 39 books written from approximately 1500 to 400 BC, and the New Testament (New Covenant) contains 27 books written from approximately 40 to 90 AD. The Jewish Bible (Tenach) is the same as the Christian Old Testament, except for its book arrangement. The original Old Testament was written mainly in Hebrew, with some Aramaic, while the original New Testament was written in Greek.

God does not leave us with just claims of His divine handiwork in the Bible, but also supports it with compelling evidence. The design of the Bible itself is a miracle. Written over more than 1,500 years by vastly different writers, yet every book in the Bible is consistent in its message. These 66 books talk about history, prophecy, poetry, and theology. Despite their complexity, differences in writing styles and vast time periods, the books of the Bible agree miraculously well in theme, facts and cross-referencing. No human beings could have planned such an intricate combination of books over a 1,500-year time span. Bible manuscripts (remember, there were no printing presses until 1455) have survived despite weather, persecution and time. Most ancient

writings written on weak materials like papyrus have vanished all together. Yet many copies of the Old Testament scriptures survived. For instance, the Dead Sea Scrolls contain all books of the Old Testament, except Esther, and have been dated to before the time of Christ. Consider Julius Caesar's Gallic Wars. Only ten copies written about 1,000 years after the event are in existence. In comparison, there are over 24,000 plus New Testament manuscripts, the earliest one dating to within 24 years after Christ.

The Bible also validates its divine authorship through fulfilled prophecies. An astonishing 668 prophecies have been fulfilled and none have ever been proven false (three are unconfirmed). An honest study of biblical prophecy will compellingly show the divine authorship of the Bible. Further, archeology confirms (or in some cases supports) accounts in the biblical record. No other holy book comes close to the Bible in the amount of evidence supporting its divine authorship.

> > : .._Who wrote the Bible?:

The Bible claims to have come from God. Speaking of the whole Old Testament, Paul wrote, "All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16). Even the New Testament is called Scripture, Paul cited the gospel as "Scripture" in 1 Timothy 5:18. And Peter referred to Paul's epistles as Scripture in 2 Peter 3:15-16. So Both the entire Old Testament, New and both Gospels and Epistles, are said to be writings that are "breathed out" by God. Jesus used a similar expression when he referred to the Word of God coming out of the "mouth of God", saying to the tempter, "Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4).

Not only does the Bible claim to be a God-breathed writing, but it comes from Spirit-moved writers. Peter referred to the Old Testament prophets as men who were "carried along" by

the Holy Spirit. "For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:21). David added, "The Spirit of the Lord spoke through me; his word was on my tongue" (2 Samuel 23:2). So the Bible claims to have been written by God through men of God.

The Bible was written by Prophets of God. God is the ultimate source of the Bible, but men of God called prophets were the instruments God used to record his words. The role of biblical prophets was unique. They were the mouthpieces of God, commissioned to speak his words, nothing more and nothing less (Proverbs 30:6; Revelation 22:18-19). God told Balaam, "Speak only what I tell you" (Numbers 22:35). Balaam responded "Can I say just anything? I must speak only what God puts in my mouth" (verse 38). As Amos put it, "The Sovereign Lord has spoken - who can put prophecy?" (Amos 3:8).

The whole Old Testament was written by prophets. Some Old Testament writers were prophets by office. Moses was a prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15). He wrote the first five books of the Bible known as "the book of Moses" (Mark 12:26 or Luke 24:27) with the exception of Genesis that he only edited. All the books after him were at first called "the Prophets" (Matthew 5:17; Luke 24:27). The New Testament refers to the whole Old Testament as a prophetic writing (2 Peter 1:20-21 cf. Hebrews 1:1). Beginning with Samuel (1 Samuel 10:10-12) there was a company of the prophets (1 Samuel 19:20). Some men such as Elijah (1 Kings 18:36; Malachi 4:5) or Elisha (2 Kings 9:1) were known as prophets. Other Old Testament writers were prophets by gift. That is, they did not belong to the group or company of prophets, but God spoke to them and gave them a message to deliver to the people (Amos 7:14-15). Daniel was a prince by profession (Daniel 1:3-6), but he became a prophet by calling and gift. Jesus called him "the prophet Daniel" (Matthew 24:15). David was a shepherd boy, but God spoke

to him. David wrote, "The Spirit of the Lord spoke through me; his word was on my tongue" (2 Samuel 23:2). Even Solomon, who wrote Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs, received revelations from God as a prophet does (1 Kings 3:5). The rest of the Old Testament authors fit into this category, since their writings were in the section known as "the Prophets" (Matthew 5:17; Luke 24:27) and since the Old Testament was known as a prophetic writing (Hebrews 1:1; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

Likewise, all the New Testament writers were "apostles and prophets," since the church was built on this foundation (Ephesians 2:20). They, too, claimed to receive their message from God. Paul, who wrote about half of the New Testament books, was considered to have inspired Scripture in the same category as the Old Testament (2 Peter 3:15-16). Matthew and John were among those Jesus promised to lead into "all truth" and bring to their remembrance whatever he taught them (John 16:13; 14:26). Peter, one of the chief apostles, wrote two books on his credentials as an apostle and eyewitness of Jesus (see 1 Peter 1:1 ; 2 Peter 1:1, 16). The other New Testament writers were associates of the apostles and prophets by gift, since God spoke through these servants of Jesus as well (see James 1:1; Jude 1-3).

> > : .. What did Jesus Say about the Completeness of the Old Testament?

Jesus confirmed the closure of the Old Testament canon in several ways. In his numerous use of the Old Testament Scriptures, he never cited any book other than one of the twenty-four (thirty-nine) canonical books of the Jewish Old Testament. What's more, he cited from every major section of the Old Testament – both Law and Prophets, as well as the later division of the Prophets known as "Writings." But he never quoted any books known as the Apocrypha. Further, Jesus in Matthew 23:35 defined the limits of the Old Testament canon as ending in 2 Chronicles (the book listed

last in the Jewish Old Testament) by the phrase “from the blood of righteous Abel [Genesis 4] to the blood of Zechariah [2 Chronicles 24:20-22]. “The phrase was a Jewish equivalent of the Christian phrase “from Genesis to Revelation,” indicating a complete Jewish canon of Scripture. Furthermore, phrases like, “Law of the Prophets” (Matthew 5:17) and “Moses and all the Prophets” (Luke 24:27) are used by Jesus to indicate the complete canon of Jewish Scripture. Indeed, Jesus used the phrase in parallel with the phrase “all the Scriptures” (Luke 24:27). Being a faithful Jew, Jesus, who came “not to abolish the Law of the Prophets” (Matthew 5:17), accepted the same closed Jewish canon as did Judaism, which has always been the same book as the thirty-nine books of the Protestant Old Testament.

> > : .. Did the Roman Catholic Church Add Books to the Jewish Old Testament?

Yes. These books, known as the Apocrypha, were written between 250 B.C. And 150 A.D. They were written by the Jews about Jewish history and beliefs in the intertestamental times, but they did not claim to be inspired, nor did Judaism ever accept them as inspired by God. Nevertheless, Roman Catholic officials added eleven of these apocryphal books of the Bible by an alleged infallible proclamation of the Council of Trent (A.D. 1546).

This adding of apocryphal books is rejected by Protestants because:

- > these books do not claim to be inspired by God
- > they were not written by prophets
- > they were not confirmed by miracles
- > they contain no new supernatural prophecies
- > they contain false teachings and errors
- > they were never accepted by Judaism as inspired

- > they are never quoted as Scripture in the New Testament
- > Jesus accepted the and confirmed the Jewish canon which was called the Law and the Prophets (Matthew 5:17 ;Luke 24:27)
- > they were rejected by most major church fathers in the early church, including the great Roman Catholic biblical scholar Jerome
- > the grounds on which Roman Catholics accepted them was faulty – claiming Christian usage rather than their being written by the prophet or apostle as the reason (see John 14:26; 16:13; Ephesians 2:20; Hebrews 1:1; 2:3-4)

> > : .. What did Jesus Promise about the Formation of the New Testament?

The New Testament gives clear indications that Jesus' revelation to the apostles would complete the biblical revelation started in the Old Testament. Jesus was the full and complete revelation of the Old Testament, “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish but to fulfill them” (Matthew 5:17). Indeed, the book of Hebrews teaches that Jesus is the full and final revelation of God in “the last days.” The author of Hebrews wrote this:

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being. (Hebrews 1:1-3)

Further, the author of Hebrews refers to Jesus as “superior to” the angels (1:4), a “better hope” than the law (7:19),

and “better” than the Old Testament law and priesthood (9:23). Indeed, this revelation and redemption is said to be eternal (5:9; 9:12, 15) and once for all (9:28; 10:12-14). So Jesus was the full and final revelation of God to humankind. He alone could say, “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:9). And of Jesus Christ alone could it be said that “in [him] all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form” (Colossians 2:9).

> > : .. Were All the Apostolic and Prophetic writings preserved in the New Testament?

Yes, we have every reason to believe they were. There are two lines of evidence that all the inspired writings of the apostles and their associates were preserved and are found in the twenty-seven books of the New Testament. The first reason is based on the character of God and the second on the care exercised by the first-century church. These two reasons will be found to be logically indisputable.

> > : .. Is the Whole Bible Complete?

The Bible is complete. There is no evidence (nearly all scholars and theologians assert this as well) that any inspired book has been lost. This is confirmed by the providence of God, the immediate and careful preservation exercised by the church, and the absence of any evidence of any other prophetic or apostolic book. Alleged contrary examples are easily explained as either non-inspired works to which the biblical author made reference or inspired works contained in the sixty-six inspired books but with another name.

> > : .._What is God's purpose in Allowing Evil?

The fact that humans used God-given free choice to disobey God did not take God by surprise. C. S. Lewis suggests that God in his omniscience “saw that from a world of free creatures, even though they fell, he could work out. . . a

deeper happiness and a fuller splendor than any world of automata would admit.” Or, as Geisler has put it so well, the theist does not have to claim that our present world is the best of all possible worlds, but it is the best way to the best possible world:

If God is to both preserve freedom and defeat evil, then this is the best way to do it. Freedom is preserved in that each person makes his own free choice to determine his destiny. Evil is overcome in that, once those who reject God are separated from the others, the decisions of all are made permanent. Those who choose God will be confirmed in it, and sin will cease. Those who reject God are in eternal quarantine and cannot upset the perfect world that has come about. The ultimate goal of a perfect world with free creatures will have been achieved, but the way to get there requires that those who abuse freedom be cast out.”

A critically important factor involved in the suggestion that this may not be the best possible world but it is the best way to the best possible world is that God is not finished yet. Too often people fall into the trap of thinking that because God hasn't dealt with evil yet, he is not dealing with it at all. This is simply not true: consult the Scriptures to test this statement.

Walter Martin used to say, “I've read the last chapter of the book, and we win!” Evil will one day be done away with. Just because evil is not destroyed right now does not mean it never will be.

In view of the above facts, the existence of evil in the world is seen to be compatible with the existence of an “all-good and all-powerful God.” We can summarize the facts this way:

- 1> If God is all-good, he will defeat evil.
- 2> If God is all-powerful, he can defeat evil.
- 3> Evil is not yet defeated.

- 4> Therefore, God can and will one day defeat evil.

One day in the future, Christ will return, strip away power from the wicked and hold all men and women accountable for the things they did during their time on earth (see Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 20:11-15). Justice will ultimately prevail. Those who enter eternity without having trusted in Jesus Christ will understand just how effectively God has dealt with the problem of evil.

> > : .._Is the Bible True?:

If the Bible is indeed what it claims to be, the implications for us are considerable. The Bible candidly claims to be "given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16). Of course, the Bible is not the only book to claim divine inspiration, but it is unique in that it offers substantial evidence to back its claims. It even goes so far as to challenge its readers to put it to the test, exhorting us to "Test all things" (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

Unquestionably, the single greatest evidence lending to the veracity of the Bible's claims of divine inspiration is the fulfillment of Bible prophecy. Consider this: if man were able to clearly and consistently foresee the future, would the billion-dollar Las Vegas gambling industry exist? I'm willing to bet it wouldn't. As man by himself is unable to foresee future events, prophecy is a reasonable indicator of supernatural inspiration. The Bible purports to contain more than a thousand inspired prophecies. The vast majority of these prophecies have already come to pass and can be verified by secular history. Consider, for example, Ezekiel's prophecies concerning God's judgment against the ancient Phoenician capital of Tyre (Ezekiel, chapter 26). The prophecy states that Tyre would first be razed by Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar. Later, it would be utterly destroyed

by a coalition of nations, flattened like the top of a rock, its ruins (and even its dust) scraped and thrown into the sea, becoming a place for fishermen to spread their nets. The surrounding nations would witness Tyre's fate and surrender without a fight. It's a rather odd prophecy. Amazingly, the conditions of Ezekiel's prophecy were fulfilled, even to the tiniest detail. Nebuchadnezzar sacked Tyre. Later, Alexander the Great led a coalition of nations against Tyre, demolished it, scraped it to bedrock and threw its ruins into the sea to build a causeway. The ancient site became (and remains to this day) a place for local fishermen to spread their nets to dry. (For secular confirmation, see General History for Colleges and High Schools, Boston, Ginn & Co., p. 55).

Prophecy is not just a phenomenon of the ancient past. Bible prophecy is being fulfilled today before our eyes. Consider the nation of Israel. The Jews were "the least of all peoples" (Deuteronomy 7:7), without a homeland and without freedom, serving as slaves in Egypt. At the time, Egypt was the dominant world power. However, because of a promise God made to a man named Abraham, his son Isaac, and his grandson Jacob centuries earlier, God rescued the Israelites from their bondage "with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with great terribleness, and with signs, and with wonders" (Deuteronomy 26:8). God gave the Israelites a homeland of their own, made a covenant with them, and entrusted them with the Bible. Israel was a nation set apart for God -- God's testimony to a world that turned its back on the One who created them. Sadly, Israel's history, like that of the world's, was one of constant rebellion against God. Over and over, the Jewish people would rebel, suffer God's wrath, humble themselves, regret their rebellion and turn back to God, and receive God's blessing again - then start the process all over again... Finally, God sent nations upon them (like He did with ancient Tyre) and drove the Jews from their homeland. In 70 AD, Roman legions

decimated Israel, dispersed the Jews throughout the world, and banned them from ever reentering their homeland. The Jews were without a homeland for 1,900 years! Nevertheless, God promised the Jews that though He would remove them from the land, they would remain an identifiable people and would return to their land again. (see, for example, Leviticus 26:13-16; Nehemiah 1:8-9; Deuteronomy 30:1-5). It is a miracle in itself that the Jews have survived and remained an identifiable people without a homeland for 1,900 years. All other nations who have ever lost their homeland became assimilated into the surrounding nations and lost their identity within a few hundred years. Yet the Jews have remained and miraculously returned to Israel as their official homeland in 1948.

> > : .._Why Jesus?:

Look throughout the major world religions and you'll find that Buddha, Muhammad, Confucius and Moses all identified themselves as teachers or prophets. None of them ever claimed to be equal to God. Surprisingly, Jesus did. That is what sets Jesus apart from all the others. He said God exists and you're looking at him. Though he talked about his Father in heaven, it was not from the position of separation, but of very close union, unique to all humankind. Jesus said that anyone who had seen Him had seen the Father, anyone who believed in him, believed in the Father.

He said, "I am the light of the world, he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." He claimed attributes belonging only to God: to be able to forgive people of their sin, free them from habits of sin, give people a more abundant life and give them eternal life in heaven. Unlike other teachers who focused people on their words, Jesus pointed people to himself. He did not say, "follow my words and you will find truth." He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father but through me."

> > : .._What proof did Jesus give for claiming to be divine?:

He did what people can't do. Jesus performed miracles. He healed people...blind, crippled, deaf, even raised a couple of people from the dead. He had power over objects...created food out of thin air, enough to feed crowds of several thousand people. He performed miracles over nature...walked on top of a lake, commanding a raging storm to stop for some friends. People everywhere followed Jesus, because he constantly met their needs, doing the miraculous. He said if you do not want to believe what I'm telling you, you should at least believe in me based on the miracles you're seeing.

Jesus Christ showed God to be gentle, loving, aware of our selfcenteredness and shortcomings, yet deeply wanting a relationship with us. Jesus revealed that although God views us as sinners, worthy of his punishment, his love for us ruled and God came up with a different plan. God himself took on the form of man and accepted the punishment for our sin on our behalf. Sounds ludicrous? Perhaps, but many loving fathers would gladly trade places with their child in a cancer ward if they could. The Bible says that the reason we would love God is because he first loved us. Jesus died in our place so we could be forgiven. Of all the religions known to humanity, only through Jesus will you see God reaching toward humanity, providing a way for us to have a relationship with him. Jesus proves a divine heart of love, meeting our needs, drawing us to himself. Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, he offers us a new life today. We can be forgiven, fully accepted by God and genuinely loved by God. He says, "I have loved you with an everlasting love, therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you."¹¹ This is God, in action.

Does God exist? If you want to know, investigate Jesus Christ. We're told that "God so loved the world that he gave

his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." God does not force us to believe in him, though he could. Instead, he has provided sufficient proof of his existence for us to willingly respond to him. The earth's perfect distance from the sun, the unique chemical properties of water, the human brain, DNA, the number of people who attest to knowing God, the gnawing in our hearts and minds to determine if God is there, the willingness for God to be known through Jesus Christ. These are all things that were made for the purpose of us acknowledging God. The only question that remains is: Do we want to be with God?

> > : .._Was Jesus a failure?: What is the best deal you can make?

The life of Jesus is the best answer to that question. Consider the facts of His "career";

- > He was born in an obscure village in an out-of-the-way province of the Roman Empire.
- > He never went to college, nor did he have any professional training.
- > He never had a bank account.
- > He owned no property except the clothes on his back.
- > He never held public office.
- > He never wrote a book.
- > He never had a wife or children.
- > His closest friends were blue-collar workers.
- > He felt at home among the outcasts of society.
- > His ministry consisted of preaching in the countryside, teaching in the synagogues, answering difficult questions, healing the sick, and casting out demons.
- > Along the way, he made many powerful enemies by exposing corruption in high places.
- > His opponents openly accused him of consorting with the devil.

- > Finally, his adversaries captured him, tried him in a kangaroo court, and put him to death. To be perfectly honest, by most modern standards we would consider him a failure. He never made it to the top. If ever a man seemed to waste his life, it was Jesus. But consider this. After more than two thousand years...
- > His words are remembered and repeated around the world.
- > His followers number in the hundreds of millions and can be found in every country on earth.
- > His personal integrity stands unsullied amidst the attacks of cynics and the sneers of the ignorant.
- > His death, which seemed to be a tragedy, has become the means by which we can be reconciled to God.
- > His whole mission on earth, which seemed to be a failure, has now become history's greatest success story.

How can this be? He was humiliated to the point of death and seemed to lose his life for no purpose whatsoever. And yet through his death God exalted him to the very highest position in the universe, "so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10-11). Jesus made clear why he did what he did when he said, "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (John 12:24). Out of one seed comes forth a vast harvest; but that seed must die in order to bring forth fruit. As long as the seed "saves" its life, it remains alone. But when it "loses" its life, it brings forth the harvest. It's simple, really. If you try to "save" your life, in the end you "lose" it. But if you dare to "lose" it for Jesus' sake, in the end you "save" it. Jesus himself is the supreme example of this

principle. There is yet another way of looking at this whole question of losing and saving your life. Let me do it by asking the question: Is your life a career or a mission? There is a vast difference between those two concepts. A quick glance at a dictionary reveals the essence of the difference:

- > A career is something you choose for yourself.
- > A mission is something chosen for you by someone else.

For the sake of convenience, we can display many of the differences this way:

Career Mission

Chosen by you Chosen by God
Do something Be something
Your goals for your life God's goals for your life
"I can do it" "Bigger than me"
"I want it all right now" "I'm willing to wait for God"
Ladder to climb Journey to take
Present satisfaction Future fulfillment
Horizontal focus Vertical focus
Tangible rewards Intangible rewards
Happiness Joy
Destination primary Journey primary
"My career is my life" "My mission is my life"
"I am a professional" "I am a disciple"
Make a mark Do God's will
Make it to the top Take up the cross
"My kingdom come" "Thy kingdom come"
Build a fortune Lay up treasures in heaven
Focus: performance Focus: relationship with God
Market-driven Holiness-driven
Image-conscious God-conscious

There is a huge difference between living for your career and being sent on a mission. The Bible never talks about having a career. Having a career is not a biblical issue. Having a mission is. It is not that believers don't have careers. We do, some of us are painters, some are doctors, nurses, teachers, and some are writers. Some are homemakers and mothers (an honorable and often-overlooked career). But the difference is this: The people of the world live for their careers; the people of God don't.

When your career is the most important factor in your life, then you are career-driven and career-minded while you climb the career ladder. You take a job and leave it two years later because it's "a good career move." You break all the significant relationships in one place and move across the country because your career demands it. Everything is calculated to get you someday to that elusive place called "The Top." When you get there, your career will be complete, and the world will applaud your achievements.

I am suggesting that being career-minded in this sense is precisely what Jesus meant when he said, "Whoever would save his life will lose it." Your career may well keep you from fulfilling your mission in life; and your mission may never make much sense as a career. > Your career is the answer to the question: "What do I do for a living?"

> Your mission is the answer to this question: "What am I doing with my life?"

If you are just here to eat, sleep, go to college, get a degree, get married, get a job, have some children, climb the corporate ladder, make some money, buy a summer home, retire gracefully, grow old, and die... then what's the big deal? All of that is okay; but if that's all there is to life, you are really no different from pagans who don't even believe in God.

Let's put it this way: Jesus calls his followers to be totally sold out to his Kingdom. That applies to all Christians all the

time, not just to "full-time Christian workers" such as pastors or missionaries. Suppose you are an electrical engineer, cashier or an attorney. Here is God's job description for you:

- > You are a missionary cleverly disguised as a engineer
- > You are a missionary cleverly disguised as a cashier.
- > You are a missionary cleverly disguised as a attorney.

It's nice to have a career it's far better to be on a mission for God. It's not wrong to have a career and do well by the world's standards. Nor is it sinful to move across the country. My friend Aaron Gentles is moving across the world to serve God and carry out his will. Motivation is everything. Two people may follow the same career path, and both may end up at the top. Yet one may be living solely for his career, while the other sees his life as a divinely ordained mission from God. One has lost his life; the other has saved it, just as Jesus said.

Ask yourself, did Jesus have a career? No; he had a mission from God to be the Savior of the world. Nothing he did makes sense from a career point of view. Being crucified is not a good career move. Yet by his death he reconciled the world to God. Was he a success or a failure? The answer is obvious.

_...-: [[]] The Tough Questions [[]]::-

))Find the Answers((-

> > : .. _Isn't it narrow-minded to claim that only one religion has the truth?:

Christianity does not claim that there is no truth in non-Christian religious books. It only claims that the Bible is true and that whatever is contradictory to the Bible is false. There is much that is good and true in non-Christian religions. For example, Confucius said, "Do not do to others what you would not have them do to you" - sometimes called the negative Golden Rule. This is not contradictory to the positive Golden Rule of Jesus: "Do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets" (Matthew 7:12). Also, Buddhism and most other religions are in harmony with Christianity in teaching that we should respect our parents and that murder is wrong. Christianity does not teach that only the Bible contains truth. It only affirms that the Bible is true and that everything that contradicts it is false, since contradictions cannot both be true.

> > : .. _Why cant the holy books of other religions be also be from God?:

In our multicultural, pluralistic society, people often claim that all religions are true. "Why assume," they ask, "that the holy book of just one religion is from God? Why can't they all represent truth?" Because they teach contradictory things, and contradictions cannot all be true. For example, if George Washington was the first president of the United States of

America, then it cannot also be true that Thomas Jefferson was the first president. Likewise, if the Bible declares that Jesus died on the cross and rose bodily from the dead three days later (see 1 Corinthians 15:1-6), and the Quran teaches that he did not (see Sura 4:157), both books cannot be true on such a crucial teaching. One of them has to be wrong. Further, if the writings of Joseph Smith teach that there are many gods (polytheism), which they do, and the Bible declares that there is only one God, as it does (see Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Corinthians 8:4), then both of these writings cannot be true. If the Bible is true, Smith is wrong; if Smith is right, the Bible is wrong. Of course, there are some truths in these other holy books that do not contradict the Bible, but what does contradict the Bible cannot be true.

> > : .. _Is the Quran the word of God?:

Muslims assert that the Quran itself claims to come from God through the prophet Muhammad (cf. Sura 39:1-2). The great Sunni authority Abu Hanifa expressed the orthodox belief that "the Quran is the word of God and is His inspired word and revelation. It is a necessary attribute of God. It is not God, but still is inseparable from God." Of course, "It is written in a volume, it is read in a language... but God's word is uncreated." Nevertheless, the Quran lacks any real evidence that it is the Word of God. Consider just a few crucial points. First, Muhammad himself first believed the message he got from an angel choking him was a demon. Reading through various Islamic history books reveal this to be one of the first things that anyone learns about Islam. Muslim biographer M. H. Haykal wrote vividly of Muhammad's plaguing fear that he was demon-possessed: "Stricken with panic, Muhammad arose and asked himself, 'What did I see? Did possession of the devil which I feared all along come to pass?' Muhammad looked to his right and his left but saw nothing. For a while he stood there trembling with fear and stricken with awe. He feared the cave might be

haunted and that he might run away still unable to explain what he saw."

Second, the Quran contradicts the Bible on essential teachings. We have already seen that there is strong evidence that the Bible is the Word of God (see door 38 and all other doors). And we know that contradictory truth claims cannot both be true (see door 8). For example, the Quran teaches that Jesus did not die on the cross and rise from the dead three days later (Sura 4:157-158). But this is one of the essential and often repeated truths of the Bible (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:1-19).

Third, although Muhammad recognized that prophets before him were confirmed by miracles of nature, he himself refused to perform any miracles to confirm his claims to be a prophet (Sura 3:181-84). Every prophet in the Bible was confirmed in the way of miracles or signs to provide the public with the authenticity of supernatural intervention through them (i.e. God acting through them).

Fourth, unlike the Bible, the Quran has no specific multiple, and long term predictions that came to pass without fail. The best supposed example of a predictive prophecy is about the Romans avenging a defeat (Sura 30:2-4), but this is vague, indefinite, and humanly predictable considering the Romans past actions - anyone who kept up with Roman news in those days could have very well made the prediction.

Fifth, the Quran contains contradictions and scientific errors. An example of a scientific error is its assertion that Adam was made out of a "blood clot" (Sura 23:14). And a contradiction is found in the fact that the Quran claims that there can be no change in the Words of God (Sura 10:64), which for Muslims is the Quran. For "there is none that can alter the Words (and Decrees) of God" (Sura 6:34). Yet the Quran teaches the doctrine of abrogation by which later revelations annul previous ones. Sura 2:106 speaks of "revelations...we abrogate or cause to be forgotten..." Then it turns around and declares that "we substitute one revelation

for another," admitting in the same verse that Muhammad's contemporaries called him a "forger" for doing so! Sixth, the Quran teaches an inferior view of marriage (namely, polygamy) and of women. Giving women in Islamic countries no rights to education, voting, possession of property, and freedom in general. If every woman that contributed an amazing discovery to the world of science, medicine, education, and general inventions of any nature were born in an Islamic country - such contributions to the world would never have been made. This is the case for Marie Curie whom the field of Radioactivity owes much gratitude as well as every recovering cancer patient cured by chemotherapy (radiation). She saved a multitude of lives but never would have even had the chance to make such a world changing discovery had she been born into a system of tyranny based on the worship of Allah. Islamic societies ban the education of women. How could she have gained an education in such a society?

Muhammad allowed four wives for his followers (Sura 4:3) but said God made an exception for him to have more (Sura 33:50). Entirely contradicting the Quran when it said "All men are equal." He may have had as many as fifteen wives. As for the treatment of women, the Quran allowed men to "scourge [beat] them" if they even suspected them of unfaithfulness (Sura 4:34). Where is the logic in that!?

_.->>A few more reasons not explained so eloquently:

1> Surah 10:3 vs. Surah 41:9, 10, 12

The Qur'an first agrees with the biblical Genesis account that says God created everything in six days. (Genesis 1:1-2:2). However, later it self-contradicts this record, in totaling the number of the creation days as 8 ($4+2+2=8$) in Surah 41:9, 10, 12.

2> Surah 7:120-125

The Qur'an claims that crucifixion was used at the time of Pharaoh in dealing with sorcerers, yet historical evidence gives no precedent to this method being practiced even close to this time frame. The first record of people being crucified was by the Phoenicians and the Carthaginians close to 1,700 years after Pharaoh! What rubbish this statement the Quoran states.

3> Surah 20:90-100

The Qur'an records that a Samaritan assisted the Israelites in building the golden calf, but in reality the Samaritans did not exist as a people until at least 722 B.C., several hundred years proceeding the time of Moses and the Israelite exodus from Egypt. Therefore, a Samaritan could not have helped in the molding of the calf.

4> Surah 9:30

The Qur'an insists that the Jews perceive Ezra as being the Messiah, but this has never been a tenet of Judaism in all tracing of history.

5> Surah 18:83-100

The Qur'an dictates that Alexander the Great was a devout Muslim, lived to a ripe old age, and built an enormous iron and brass wall between two mountains, large enough to block out an entire army (Surah 18:96). Historical records, on the other hand, show that Alexander the Great died at the terribly young age of 33 (356 B.C. - 323 B.C.) The twelve altars in India on the Hyphasis River (now Beas) which Alexander had dedicated to twelve Olympian gods clearly indicate that he was not a Muslim either. What's more is that there is absolutely no historical evidence whatsoever that Alexander the Great ever built this wall, a feat which would have credited him as being one of the greatest builders or engineers in the history of mankind.

6> Surah 19:28, 3:33-36

The Qur'an presents a very historically twisted view on Mary, Jesus' mother. At one point, the Qur'an speaks of Mary as being the sister of Moses and Aaron, obviously mistaking Mary with Miriam.

7> Surah 18:86

"Until, when he reached the setting of the sun, he found it set in a spring of murky water: Near it he found a people: We said: O Dhu al Qarnayn! Either punish them, or treat them with kindness." It is well known fact of history that only the superstitious in the age of Muhammad believed that the sun would set in a muddy spring.

8> "Issa"

The Qur'an uses the name "Issa" in its reference to Jesus, but this translation is incorrect. "Issa" is the Arabic equivalent of "Esau", the name for the twin brother of Jacob. The correct Arabic name for Jesus would be Yesuwa, similar to the Hebrew Yeshuwa, yet the Qur'an has no mention of it.

9> Surah 16:15; 21:31; 31:10; 78:6-7; 88:19

The Qur'an teaches that God threw down mountains on the earth like tent pegs to keep the earth from shaking. For pre-scientific man this would sound logical, since mountains are large and therefore, their weight would have seemingly, a stabilizing effect on the earth. Yet we now know this logic to be quite inaccurate. Mountains do not render the earth's crust stable. In fact, the very existence of mountains is evidence of instability in the earth's crust, as they are found and pushed up by the colliding of tectonic plates (i.e. the migration of Arabia toward Iran has resulted in the Zagros range, France pushing against Italy produced the Alps, and the Indian plate nudging Tibet has given us the Himalayas).

10> Surah 86:5-7

The Qur'an tells that man was created from a gushing fluid issuing from in between the loins and ribs, indicating that semen originates from the male's back or kidney. Of course anyone educated in the science of human reproduction today knows that semen is stored in the male testicles.

11> Surah 16:66

The Qur'an makes mention that cow's milk comes from between the excrement and the blood of the cows abdomen. What does this mean? Does it mean what is written in the Qur'an is obviously incorrect compared to reality?

12> Surah 16:69

The Qur'an says that honey comes from a bees abdomen and gives healing. Again, what does it mean that honey comes out of a bees abdomen? Yet again, the mounting evidence of incorrect statements accumulates.

13> Surah 6:38

The Qur'an states that all animals and flying beings form communities, like humans. Any paleontologist today would testify that there are all sorts of animals that do not fit this description, but survive as total loners.

14> Surah 25:45-46

The Qur'an claims that it is the sun which moves to create shadows. However, science holds that it is the rotation of the earth causes the movement of shadows, while the sun stays in place.

15> Surah 17:1

The Qur'an speaks of Muhammad going to the "farthest Mosque" during his journey by night, which many Muslims interpret to be the Dome of the Rock mosque in Jerusalem. Yet, there was no mosque in Jerusalem during Muhammad's lifetime, and the Dome of the Rock was not built until 690

A.D. by Amir 'Abd al Malik, a whole 58 years after Muhammad died. In fact, historical evidence suggests that there was not even a temple standing at that time. The temple of Jerusalem had been demolished by Titus 570 years prior to this supposed vision of Muhammad's.

16> Surah 23:14

The Qur'an proposes that Adam was made out of a "blood clot." Rubbish. Where did the blood come from? This position proposes a neglectful stance on the God of this theology, thus implicating blood preexisted and in so no mention of its creation is referenced prior to this verse. So then how is one to believe such instability when encountering the many conflicting logical (or rather the lack of) statements the Quran establishes as "truth?" With all sensibility these literary constructions hold many errors. This dear reader holds to absolute truth: test it if research is in your veins.

17> Surah 4:3, 34; 33:50 + verse that says "all men are equal"

The Quran teaches an inferior view of marriage (namely, polygamy) and of women. Giving women in Islamic countries no rights to education, voting, possession of property, and freedom in general. Muhammad allowed four wives for his followers (Sura 4:3) but said God made an exception for him to have more (Sura 33:50). Entirely contradicting the Quran when it said "All men are equal." He may have had as many as fifteen wives. As for the treatment of women, the Quran allowed men to "scourge [beat] them" if they even suspected them of unfaithfulness (Sura 4:34). Where is the logic in that? Nowhere to be found.

18> Surah 6:14, 163, 39:12 vs Surah 2:132; 28:52, 53, 3:52:

The Qur'an dictates that Muhammad was the first to bow down to Allah, but it also says that Braham, his sons and

Jacob were Muslims, and so were all the earlier prophets who brought "books" (i.e. Moses, David and Jesus). Againn, it contradicts itself in claiming that Jesus' disciples were Muslims. If Muhammad was the first to bow down to Allah, how could the other so called Muslims prior to him truly be considered Muslim (even though the Bible asserts otherwise)?

> > : .. **_What is Reincarnation?:**

Reincarnation is the belief that a being (human, animal, vegetable, or mineral), after cessation of existence on earth, will experience a new birth and enter existence again in the form of another being. This belief is based on two assumptions: First, time is cyclical - sometimes phrased as "time-lessness" - and whatever happens will happen again. Second, the class of birth depends on the deeds done by the being in the previous birth.

Belief in reincarnation is common to Hinduism, Buddhism, Romani, Jainism, Shinto, Sikhism, Mysticism, Hare Krishna, Confucianism, and many, many more although the mechanics are different. Both polytheistic and pantheistic forms of Hinduism approach reincarnation in somewhat different ways. The Hindu believes that the individual soul, the jivatman, is an extension of the eternal soul, the paramantman, or simply atman. One's identity in any particular life is the jivatman in a form earned by deeds (karma) in the previous birth. When a jivatman transmigrates at cessation of the existence of that particular form, it may begin existence in a totally new form, again decided by karma - and so the cycle goes on.

In polytheistic Hinduism, gods and goddesses themselves are treated as incarnations (or reincarnations), and thus their human history need not necessarily be absolute. This also shows why a polytheist Hindu is not too disturbed by the absence of exemplary moral qualities in the pantheon. There is in recent times, however, a development in which

one of the gods, Krishna, who in classical Hinduism is an incarnation - in fact, one of nine with some devotees looking forward to a perfect tenth incarnation - of the god of preservation, Vishnu, has been elevated to the Infinite-Personal level. This is the same theological status given to God in Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. The devotees of this understanding of Krishna belong to the International Society of Krishna-Consciousness (ISKCON).

The polytheistic idea of salvation is to reach the highest of possible births, considered by many to be birth as a Brahmin. Thereafter, because of performing religious rites and duties, visiting holy places, bathing in sacred rivers and offering oblations and worship (pujas) at various shrines, the devotee attains moksha (salvation). Good works are often understood, not as moral behavior to be measured against the just requirements of a holy deity, but as the performance of religious duties carried out meticulously in accordance with the rules laid down in the Vedas (ancient Hindu scriptures). Socially, the practice of Brahmanism as a way of life has fallen into some disrepute because of the caste discrimination by Brahmins against those of "lower" births. Thus, pilgrimage to holy places is undertaken by all levels of Hindu society, although there are areas in temples and rivers where the lowest castes are not permitted to enter even now. Performance of religious duties in temples is still largely the duty of Brahmin priests.

The concept of salvation among polytheists is somewhat vague. While it definitely includes an escape from the cycle of rebirths, it does not spell out clearly whether it is an identity-less merger with the Infinite or communion with the Personal. ISKCON devotees would clearly side with the latter and speak of salvation as communion with Krishna, whereas the New Age branch of pantheists and some popular (polytheistic) Hindus would take the position of the former - absorption into the infinite Brahman.

Pantheistic Hinduism treats personality as an inferior manifestation of the Impersonal (already stated above). Thus, belief in personal deities is considered a primitive form of understanding the Absolute Brahman because these deities themselves are lower manifestations of Ultimate Reality. However, pantheists encourage polytheists to be devoted to these gods and goddesses until they reach enlightenment, when they will break out of the cycle of rebirths - called Karma Samsara. According to pantheists, therefore, bondage to the karmic cycles of reincarnation is an indication that brahmavidya has not been attained. In other words, my self-consciousness as a human being is proof that I am still part of this cycle and that I need to be liberated by means of true union (yoga) with the Infinite Brahman.

The idea of reincarnation is now being challenged by some contemporary Hindu scholars on the following grounds: First, there is the problem of evaluating good karma (works). If a being could belong to all categories of life and non life, how could one attribute good karmic behavior to impersonal creatures?

Second, there are two problems for the pantheist - one is that all reality is one and therefore karma of one creature cannot be distinguishable from that of another. Also, the pantheist insists on the absolute Impersonal and therefore cannot find any ground for the standard of measuring karmic (moral) behavior.

Third, and half seriously, some have commented that, due to the deteriorating moral lifestyle of our present generation, very few humans would be born "again" into a human birth. Animal and granite slabs have no basis to live a moral life anyway, and they cannot therefore aspire to become humans. How is it, then, that we have this huge population explosion?

The pantheist normally takes recourse to a cause and effect approach while discussing karma. He or she would say that,

because every action has a reaction, the karma of our future life is the reaction to what we did in the previous birth, and we are not to give moral overtones to this phenomenon. I have heard some pantheists even refer to Galatians 6:7 - "A man reaps what he sows." They would, of course, choose to ignore the moral context in which Paul makes this statement.

The Christian can capitalize on the teaching of karma. Sometimes in preaching the gospel of grace we have not adequately dealt with good works. At the great white throne judgment portrayed in Revelation 20:11-15, human beings are judged on the basis of what they have done. While it is correct to say that hell is the destination of those who have rejected Christ, we should not gloss over the fact that the "books" in this passage are the records of the deeds of humans by which they are judged. Christian salvation is therefore the intervention of the incarnate God, Jesus Christ, to break the karmic cycle by bearing our karmic debt, as it were, because by our karma we never would have been able to please an unutterably holy God. His own character is the standard, then, that judges humans. Those who escape the judgment do so not by the lowering of the standard, not by attaining it (because this is impossible), but by the vicarious meeting of the requirement by Jesus Christ.

We also can use the findings of science to counter the idea of the cyclical nature of history. Of the dimensions we are familiar with - the three spatial dimensions of length, breadth, and height plus the one extra dimension of time - only time is undirectional. In other dimensions, we can travel in two opposite directions - right or left, forward or backward, up or down - but in time we move only toward the future. This strongly suggests that time is linear rather than circular. This property of time has fascinated and puzzled physicists, who have coined the phrase "arrow of time" to describe it. Therefore what Hebrews 9:27 says - "man is

destined to die once, and after that to face judgment" - is more in accord with the scientific understanding of time than proposing that there is an endless series of births and rebirths.

A word needs to be said about the International Society of Krishna Consciousness. While I would not say that belief in Krishna as Infinite Personal God is the logical step in the furthering of Hinduism because of the conflicts and contradictions encountered above, it would be fair to conclude that the human heart longs for personal relationship and fulfillment - and these things are not addressed by the idea of reincarnation. The bhakti movement in Hinduism, which has been around for centuries, is the outworking of devotion to God and has found its recent manifestation in ISKCON. Followers of this group can be identified by their shaven heads - sometimes a tuft of hair is sported. They are not ashamed to walk down the streets chanting, "Hare Rama, Hare Krishna," worship terms ascribing honor to the gods Rama and Krishna. This group does not believe in reincarnation or in absorption into the impersonal Brahman. They teach that by being devoted to Krishna in the present life, humans will be able to enjoy eternal communion with him in the hereafter.

Many of the Ph.d's in the ISKCON somehow make a dialogue turned to a comparison between Jesus Christ and Krishna. For every single aspect of Christ they claim that a comparable one can be found in the life and times of Krishna

> > : .. _Do Mormons believe that the Bible is Inspired by God?:

Not really. While in theory Mormons accept the inspiration of the original manuscripts of the Bible, in practice they believe that the copies are riddled with errors. The Missionary Pal lists a section on "Bible Errors" and gives examples of "errors" in the Bible, such as the two accounts

of Judas's death (Matthew 27:5; Acts 1:18) and two reports of Paul's visions (Acts 9:7; 22:9). In fact, Joseph Smith made his own "inspired" translation of the Bible (the Joseph Smith Translation), which contains thousands of changes from the King James Bible.

The official statement of Mormonism about the Bible is this: "We believe the Bible to be the Word of God as far as it is translated correctly; we also believe the book of Mormon to be the word of God" (eighth article of faith). But in practice Mormon leaders from Joseph Smith on have said the Bible has not been translated accurately. So it gives a wrong impression to say they believe that the Bible is the Word of God. If it is, why would God command Joseph Smith to make an "inspired translation" of the Bible that contains thousands of changes from the Bible in use in Smith's day, even omitting the whole book (Song of Songs)?

> > : .. _Is there confirmation that Mormon scriptures are from God?:

None whatsoever. Unlike the Gospels, the witnesses to the claims of the Book of Mormon were not supported by supernatural events, as Jesus and the apostles were. Further, later Mormon writings contradict earlier ones. What's more, Joseph Smith fits the tests for a false prophet, since he used means of divination and made false prophecies. In addition, neither Joseph Smith nor his witnesses were confirmed by such miracles as healing the blind, lame and deaf, and raising the dead (cf. Matthew 10:8; Luke 7:21). Finally, the witnesses of the Book of Mormon were not credible.

> > : .. _Are there evidences that the book of Mormon is inspired?:

Mormons offer the eleven witnesses to the Book of Mormon as proof of its divine origin. But their testimony lacks credibility for many reasons. First, even if the alleged witnesses did see some kind of plates of the Book of

Mormon, it does not mean that what was written on them was true. Second, even if some of the witnesses believed they saw some angel-like beings, it does not mean they were not hallucinating. Third, even if they actually saw some angels, it does not mean that they were good angels (the devil transformed into an angel of light - 2 Corinthians 11:14). Fourth, the "gospel" of works the angel revealed to Smith was contrary to the gospel of grace preached by Paul, who said, "Even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned!" (Galatians 1:8). Fifth, the eleven witnesses to the Book of Mormon could not read what was on the plates, so they couldn't even vouch for the content of the message on the plates. Sixth, in another case in which Joseph Smith claimed to be able to translate the Book of Abraham, the manuscript was later discovered, translated by competent scholars from Egypt, and proved to be a total fraud having nothing to do with Abraham. Rather, it was an Egyptian "Book of Breathings." Why, then, should the Book of Mormon be considered anything else? Seventh, there is a serious question about the credibility of the witnesses themselves even seeing what they claimed to have seen. Eighth, the Book of Mormon largely speaks of the "ancient peoples of America" and the great "King Mormon" who subsequently lived in America long long ago with his kingdom. Although nearly every part of America is civilized - no such ancient American castle of King Mormon has ever been found. There is no evidence, so why do they believe? That's the million dollar question to any religion that has no supporting evidence for followers to adopt the teachings thereof the beliefs required to follow.

> > : .. _What is Transcendental Meditation?:

The term Transcendental Meditation (TM) was popularized by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi in the late 1960s. His diagnosis of the human predicament was that we who were actually part

(or extension) of the infinite Brahman were unaware of the fact due to our ignorance (avidya) and preoccupation with mundane things. We needed to "transcend" the mundane by practice of the appropriate meditation - TM - in order to be able to find our union with the Infinite. This was classical pantheistic teaching of the earlier guru Sankara (A.D. 788-820).

Mahesh Yogi, however, suggested a very practical and down-to-earth way of meditation that didn't need any sophistication and practically no knowledge of Hinduism or speculative philosophy. In his ashram (prayer hall) in northern India, he would assign a monosyllabic word to each of the devotees in the language which they were comfortable. Each devotee would have to repeat the assigned word audibly as a chant during all of one's waking moments. One could change over to a silent mode as long as the preoccupation was with that one word. Usually this was a word that the devotee liked in another language that the devotee did not speak, so the meaning of the word was entirely void to the chanter. After a few days of doing this, when the conscious mind was preoccupied with the word, the devotee was advised to expel the thought of that word so that the mind would become (theoretically) blank. In that moment of blankness, one could suddenly have an inward enlightenment (Brahmavidya) that one was extension of Brahman. It was at this point that one would have transcended the transient in order to find the inward liberation that is the longing of the human heart.

A moment's reflection would show that the meditation recommended by the Maharishi involves an emptying of the mind - a contentless meditation. He argued that the clutter in our human minds came in the way of true knowledge of the Infinite. Another lesser-known philosopher, who lived most of his life in Oxford, England, and who died in 1986, was Dr. J. Krishnamurti. He located the human problem in our thoughts, a result of conditioning received during our

lives as humans we passed through various stages of intellectual development. He advocated "freedom from thoughts" as the means of liberation, although he did not perfect a technique as did the Maharishi. Practical as well as philosophical problems exist with this approach. Our minds are designed to think, and even to transcend (or get rid of) thinking we have to think! The guru who tells us that our thoughts are the problem has reached this conclusion and communicates it to us only by use of the very faculties that he decries. We are caught in a web of contradiction from which there is no escape. In fact, the logical conclusion of this philosophy is total silence - absence of communication solves the human problem according to them. Although silence seems like a deterrent for yet again pretending it lacks realistic existence. An ancient Indian scripture called the Kenopanishad has this unaffirmable quote: "He who speaks does not know, and he who knows does not speak!"

A demonic dimension may exist as well to this idea of contentless meditation. In a teaching recorded by Matthew, Jesus seems to be alluding to a situation in which the evil spirit has gone out of a person only to return and find "the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order" (Matthew 12:43-45). This could be the state of a person whose mind is inactive in the passive sense after having been vacated of all other entities. In earlier times, most everyone has heard the saying spoken of the idle mind as being the "devil's workshop." Because transcendental and other forms of meditation are not anchored on objectivity and truth, there is room not only for error but also for the occult. The devil delights to oppress (and even possess) the empty mind of the unbeliever where there is no seeking after the God of truth.

It is also well to remember that meditation in this sense is "looking inward" to self rather than "looking outward" to God. The only answers that one is going to find are the answers that they create for themselves to believe because

they are subconsciously seeking the solution within themselves. Weird isn't it? It's like cooking potatoes in a clothes dryer. Because the metaphysical teaching behind this meditation is that we are extensions of the Infinite Reality of Brahman, we are encouraged to look inward to realize this "truth" that we are part of the Infinite. The sin of the "morning star" was that we would "make [himself] like the Most High" (Isaiah 14:12-14). This attempt at self-realization as part of the Infinite is the subtlest form of idolatry and thus an inevitable port of entry for the work of the devil.

In contrast, the triune being of the Christian faith is capable of eternal communication. He is a God who creates by speaking, so much that the universe can be believed to be real and objective, just as a spoken word is. This God has created us capable of thinking and speaking. To belittle the faculty of thinking is to despise our created being. Christians in the West could react to the weird and exotic meditation techniques taught by New Agers by adopting an antimeditation stance. However, the answer to wrong meditation cannot be no meditation, but right meditation. We need to answer the contentless meditation of the New Age movement with meditation on content. The Bible enjoins us to meditate on God's Word (Psalm 1:2) and to think on things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8). Christians today are in danger of having the Word on our hard drives instead of in our hearts (Psalm 119:11).

We also need to move beyond an inductive cerebral understanding of God's Word to a subjective interaction with it in contemplation, whereby we become subjects in the narrative of God's revelation rather than objects who study it from the outside. The transforming work of the Holy Spirit fronts us in the Bible (2 Corinthians 3:18). A fuller understanding and application of 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

would involve an inner release of the power of God through the Scriptures so that even the mental strongholds of the thought-life are dismantled and brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. I trust that my reluctance to propound a whole new technique of meditating on the Bible is appreciated. I am loathe to absolutize a methodology and to trivialize the glorious theology of the Bible. I would suggest instead that the New Age emphasis on the subjective aspect of religious meditation should lead us to examine the legitimate subjectivity that the Bible encourages without straying to an unanchored mysticism. Then, and only then, shall we in theory and practice be able to answer the claims the meditationists of the New Age so desperately need answered and brought in light of.

To conclude in short: The aspirations of classical Hinduism and modern-day New Age-ism point to two opposite poles of the theological spectrum. The first refers to finite personal gods (if they're not all powerful, why worship em'?), whereas the second emphasizes an infinite, impersonal reality of God (if you cant know God, why worship em'?) Thus, they are indicators that their followers long for relationship with and between gods on the one hand and for ultimate reality to be infinite on the other hand. These two requirements are more than adequately met in the God of the Bible, who is infinite and personal-relational because he is the true God. No other theology has an all powerful, knowable God like the Bible does. Simply the best all around version of God to meet the needs of everyone who desires a god, is the God of the Bible.

...-:[]] Prophecy Fulfilled []]::-

)Find the Answers(-

The massive amount of material that has been created by the curious writers who examined ancient predictions and their fulfillment through the course of historical records is astounding. Nearly every library holds a spectacle of the multitudes of prophecy related articles on their shelves. Delving deeper into the subject of prophecy reveals it's own school of thought, centering around Eschatology (The practice of accurately interpreting prophecy) and is nearly a world all of it's own. To disintegrate faulty assumptions from actuality, acclaims in actual prophecy itself is the trait eschatology requires. While with this trait comes the necessity of historical investigations in order to discover the validity of the predictions described; events being accomplished and indeed being true as they are proclaimed to be. As strange as predictions of the future might sound, these things have happened and are still in the process of being fulfilled. What determines the authenticity of a prophecy is based on the event described not only happening but occurring with every detail mentioned. Out of every religious text considered to be holy the Bible has remained the world's largest text of recorded prophecy. Prophecy can simply be defined as history recorded before it occurred. Within the first book of the Bible a prophecy can be found in every other male name in Genesis to reveal a prophecy concerning the entire message of the Bible itself. The definition of the names in Hebrew reveal such an

amazing prophecy that most have failed to see for far too many past generations.

Names Hebrew Meaning

Adam Man

Seth Appointed

Enos Mortal

Cainan Sorrow

Mahalaleel The blessed God

Jared Shall come down

Enoch Preaching

Methuselah His death shall bring

Lamech The despairing

Noah Rest

When put together it goes like this: *Man appointed mortal sorrow, [but] the blessed God shall come down preaching [that] His death shall bring the despairing rest.*

When compiled it goes like this: Adam sinned bringing death into the world through disobedience toward God, but God in his infinite kindness came to forgive the people of the world if they would only listen to his message and believe in him (He did this through His only fleshly body, the body of Jesus Christ). Only by believing and obeying could the people of the world be content having true happiness and fulfillment in their lives. After all, becoming close to God is just what mankind was made for - just like everyone wants friends, so does God. Since God is perfection there could be no greater friend than He. So why not be His friend?

With the initial prophecy that summarizes the whole of God's plan in the beginning of the world through the names of the first men; there is more detailed prophecies that just add to the already heavy scale of supernatural authenticity

provided by the Bible. Here are a few more current and crucial to our times:

- 1 > The knowledge explosion. (Daniel 12:4) Occurring today more than before.
- 2 > Plague in the middle-east. (Zachariah 14:12-15) Occurred in 1962.
- 3 > The rebirth of Israel. (Isaiah 66:8-10) Occurred in 1948.
- 4 > The Jews will return home. (Jeremiah 23:7-8) Occurred in 1942.
- 5 > Jerusalem no longer under gentile control. (Luke 21:24) Occurred in 1952.
- 6 > International instant communication. (Revelation 11:3, 7-10) Occurred in 1986.
- 7 > Days of deception. (Matthew 24:4) Occurring today more than before.
- 8 > Famines and pestilence. (Matthew 24:7-8) Occurring today more than before.
- 9 > Earthquakes. (Matthew 24:7-8) Occurring today more than before.
- 10 > "As in the days of Noah." (Matthew 24:36-39) Corruption is rampant everywhere.
- 11 > Revelation 13:7 Implicitly states that a one world government will rule the people of the world. This seems heavy in coincidence due to 136 nations out of a total 172 nations in the world are joined together. This one world government does not seem too far fetched, does it?
- 12 > Revelation 13:17 Implicitly states that a one world economy will provide all products throughout the world. The Builderberg group formed in 1885 with this as their goal. Oddly enough, they nearly have every super power company in their organization. Be that as it may, how can we call these occurrences coincidences?

> > : .._Did Jesus fulfill the Messianic prophecies?:

This is, if you don't know the main beef that the Jews have with Jesus, even though they still kill their own people for reading the Holy Bible. It is true that the probability of Jesus fulfilling one of the prophecies of the Old Testament is 10,000 to 1. This is even a generous statistic. Let's just look at the five big ones to help illustrate the sheer probability involved with such a question.

- 1 > Seven hundred years before Christ was born the prophet Isaiah had predicted that he would be born of a virgin. (Isaiah 7:14)
- 2 > We are told the time of his birth in Daniel 9.
- 3 > The place of his birth is revealed in Micah 5.
- 4 > The intimate details of His life and death are recorded in Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53.
- 5 > The fact of his resurrection is stated in Psalm 16 before it happened.

So we are ending up with the initial conditions that the Bible says are crucial for the Messiah to even be the Messiah, is that first he must be a He. Second, he must be born to a virgin. He must be born at a certain time. And he must be born in Bethlehem. By these terms alone the probability increases to 50,000 to 1. But there is far more details that must be met by the Messiah, oh but yes, the plot thickens. But first we need to define what the Messiah would do. Simply, redeem Israel and all people of the world in God's sight.

The Old Testament contains scores of prophecies about the coming of the Messiah. Barton Payne's Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy lists 191 of them, while Oxford scholar

Alfred Edersheim cites 400. "The most important point here is to keep in mind the organic unity of the Old Testament," Edersheim noted. "It's predictions are not isolated, but features of one grand prophetic picture."

Unquestionably, these predictions were written hundreds of years before Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Even the most liberal critics admit that the prophetic books were completed some 400 years before Christ, and the book of Daniel by about 167 B.C. In addition there's good evidence for dating most of the books considerably earlier than that, with some of the psalms and earlier prophets dating from the eighth and ninth centuries before Christ. This can easily be seen in a Chronological Bible, which consequently reads as the Scriptures were written. This leads up to and is possibly beyond coincidence that the Messianic prophecies come before Christ did, not after.

Many point out that one passage alone, Isaiah 53:2-12, foretells twelve aspects of Christ's purpose (passion), all of which were fulfilled – he would be rejected, be a man of sorrow, live a life of suffering, be despised by others, carry our sorrows, be smitten and afflicted by God, be pierced for our transgressions, be wounded for our sins, would suffer like a lamb, would die with the wicked, would be sinless, and would pray for others.

Most rabbis today reject the notion that Isaiah 53 was foreshadowing the Messiah, insisting instead that he was referring to the Jewish nation. Although it is still within a problematic nature that we must question the Jewish school systems and their apparent lack of reading comprehension, but then; what is education? However, it was common for Jewish interpreters before the time of Christ to teach that Isaiah here spoke of the Jewish Messiah. This can be found to be true when referencing the Jewish historians of the time, Eusebius in general. Only after Jews started accepting Christ as the Messiah did the Sanhedrin start using the text

apologetically with great force did it become in rabbinical teaching an expression of the suffering Jewish nation. This view is implausible in the context.

Some of the other major predictions about the Messiah, all of which were fulfilled in Jesus, was that he would be born of a woman (Genesis 3:15) who would be a virgin (Isaiah 7:14), of the seed of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3; 22:18), of the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10), of the house of David (2 Samuel 7:12-16), in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2); he would be heralded by the Lord's messenger (Isaiah 40:3); he would cleanse the temple (Malachi 3:1); he would be "cut off" 483 years after the declaration to reconstruct Jerusalem in 444 B.C. (Daniel 9:24-27); he would be rejected (Psalm 118:22); he would have his hands and feet pierced (Psalm 22:16); he would be pierced in his side (Zechariah 12:10); he would rise from the dead (Psalm 16:10); he would ascend into heaven (Psalm 68:18); and he would sit down at the right hand of God (Psalm 110:1).

The exact fulfillment of so many specific predictions in such a persuasive apologetic that critics have repeatedly raised objections to try to negate them. The most common are the following.

Jesus fulfilled the prophecies by accident. The odds against Jesus fulfilling the prophecies by accident would be staggering as seen earlier. In fact, Professor Peter Stoner, who was chairman of Westmont College's science division in the mid 1950's, worked with six hundred students to come up with their best estimate of the mathematical probability of just eight New Testament prophecies being fulfilled in any one person living down to the present time. Taking all eight prophecies together, Stoner then calculated the odds at one change in a hundred million billion. This is the equivalent to the number of one and a half inch squares it would take to tile ever bit of dry land on the planet.

People can disagree with whatever they want to out of a lack of information. That is their right, even when the evidence

points to another answer other than their own. To fail to mention that there are many other calculations that are as astronomical as Stoners would be devastating to this study. After all, prophecies can be difficult to quantify, and assessments may differ. Stoner challenged skeptics to come up with their own estimates and run the numbers for themselves. But when I examined the prophecies myself, I had to agree with Stoner's conclusion: The chances of anyone coincidentally fulfilling these ancient predictions would surely be prohibitive.

“The odds alone say it would be impossible for anyone to fulfill the Old Testament prophecies. Yet Jesus – and only Jesus throughout all of history – managed to do it,” said Louis Lapidès, who grew up in a conservative Jewish home but became a Christian and later a preacher after studying the prophecies. Jesus intentionally fulfilled the prophecies. Although Jesus could have maneuvered his life to fulfill certain prophecies, many of them would have been completely beyond his ability to control, such as his place of birth, his ancestry, his being betrayed for thirty pieces of silver, his method of execution, his legs remaining unbroken on the cross, and soldiers gambling for his clothes. These are all prophecies (just a few at that), that at no point would there be any way a mere man could influence their happening. Yet another sign of authenticity that Jesus was who he said he was.

Gospel writers fabricated details. Some critics maintain that the Gospels changed details to make it appear that Jesus fulfilled prophecies when he really didn't. They know that what the records of history said couldn't have possibly have happened because they weren't there. Louis Lapidès offers this defense: “When the gospels were being circulated, there were people living who had been around when all these things happened. Someone would have said to Matthew, “You know it didn't happen that way. We're

trying to communicate a life of righteousness and truth, so don't taint it with a lie." Besides, asked Lapidés, why would Matthew (or any Disciple) fabricate fulfilled prophecies and then willingly allow himself to be put to death for following someone he knew was really not the Messiah? It defies logic, doesn't it. And what's more, although the Talmud refers to Jesus in derogatory ways, it never claims that the fulfillment of the prophecies was falsified. Yet another reporter from this time verifies and certifies precisely what the disciples recorded was true, maybe the most interesting part behind his reporter is that he was an Atheist. His name was Eusebius. He recorded the history of the churches and what they were teaching from an outsider and insiders point of view. Not only did Eusebius affirm what they were teaching in the Gospels was true, he eventually believed it and followed Christ himself.

The Gospels misinterpret the prophecies. Matthew reports that Jesus' parents took him to Egypt and then to Nazareth after Herod's death, "and so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophets: 'Out of Egypt I called my son'" (Matthew 2:15). But of course, critics point out that this Old Testament reference was about the children of Israel coming out of Egypt at the exodus. This, they charge, is an example of misinterpreting the intent of the prophets to falsely claim that Jesus fulfilled their predictions.

"The New Testament did apply certain Old Testament passages to Jesus that were not directly predictive of him," Norm Geisler explained, "Many scholars see these references as being 'typologically' fulfilled in Christ... In other words, some truth in the passage can appropriately be applied to Christ even though it was not specifically predictive of him. Other scholars say there's a generic meaning in certain Old Testament passages that apply to both Israel and Christ, both of whom were called God's son. This is sometimes called a 'double reference view of prophecy.'"

Many psychics have successfully predicted the future. A careful study of the track records of psychics, ranging from Nostradamus to Jeane Dixon, shows that, unlike biblical prophecies, their predictions are extremely vague, sometimes contradictory, and very often turn out to be false. Their predictions can be applied to multiple events, unlike the Bible.

Dixon is remembered for predicting John Kennedy's election in 1960, but people forget she later predicted that Richard Nixon would win! One analysis of prophecies by twenty-five psychics showed that 92 percent were totally wrong – unlike the biblical prophets who are invariably right. Jesus' miraculous fulfillment of the ancient prophecies remains one of the most potent arguments in confirming his identity. Those who carefully scrutinize the record find that these predictions simply cannot be explained away. One of my favorite examples involves Dr. Peter Greenspan, a Jewish obstetrician-gynecologist who also teaches at a medical school. The more he read books by critics who were trying to attack the prophecies, the more he recognized the flaws in their arguments. Ironically, concluded Greenspan, “I think I actually came to faith in Y'shua [Jesus] by reading what detractors wrote.”

What will, without debate, remain prominent through the prophecies left behind in the Scripture's resides in the ability to understand them while yet comprehending the inevitable change constantly presented by the future. This my dear reader remains at the heart of debates that encircle the globe. Without any scrutiny, and with absolute study while denying belief have I conducted various encomberments placed on the mind by the heavy laden subjectivity that certainly accompanies prophecies. It is better for the understanding of the student: overall, only if such said student acquires the ability of interpretation of the future based on absolutes such as those in which the Scriptures only offer (out of all theology) to the student who

desires understanding of the world around them. Whether it is a niche that leads those special few interpreting prophecies with great ease, saying - "This technology has the ability to make this prophecy come true." It is without debate that prophets are no longer a part of the global community and yet they are.

Not only must the student of prophecy understand current events and correlate them to the present time, but indeed they must (and this requirement cannot be removed) interpret the future of such event without misunderstanding taking hold of them. Disbelief is an article the prophets enemy, thus (and as shown to be a truth) the one the prophet overcomes unconditionally on the grounds of absolute authenticity. Without this authenticity (that only presents itself with time) can a prophet be absolutely true; only if such prophecy does indeed fulfill itself in the exact manner in which it was previously predicted.

Without, and by these requirements being left indefinite is a sign and more than so; being it as a false prediction. Can we not as neighbors deduce these things for ourselves? Must we rely on "False Teachers" and miscreants? This is the behavior of the status-quo. More than not simply follow and adhere to what the 'enlightened teacher' lectures without investigating the lesson for themselves. This, (how could it be said in another way without touching literary prose and deepening the lack of clarity?) is simply what the majority suffers from; False Teachers. These teachers, my reader are counting on you not investigating precisely what exactly they are saying.

Keeping to how it has already been stated and challenged in the "Authors Note," do so much more and test what the teachers are teaching. Do not and I repeat do not believe anything until you have tested it. Only until you have tested while only testing relentlessly should you ever believe anything; only then should you believe, as should the rest of mankind.

However this trait and general understanding is negated and left to it's own rite to burn and be trod upon by the dogmatic masses who ultimately wish to control those who "Test All Things."

_.. -::[[]] References [[]]::-

-}>Organizations and Influences<{

Since it is curiosity that kills the cat, it is also curiosity; but rather the lack of - that kills the human race. Through my personal journey through thousands of pages the challenge of keeping sanity took me away from illusions and brought me into reality. The challenge of weeding out fallacies from reality is a game worth playing. Making it through it all is the greatest victory a mind can attain to. Without regret and much esteem it is with great ardor I implore you, the reader to examine carefully, all things with your heart rather than mind. Think with your body and move with your mind. It is a greater skill than the art of reading with eyes could ever be. To disconnect the mind from the eyes, only taking information to the heart being it the only imperical source for determining what cannot be refuted is certainly an acquired skill. It is lastly that a examination process I have used while searching for immutable information I give to you:

While considering opposing viewpoints that come in many diverse sources; magazines, journals, books, movies, newspapers, statements and position papers from a wide range of individuals and organizations. These sources will help you as they have helped me in the development of a mindset that is open to the consideration of a variety of opinions. The format that you are about to learn will help you answer the following questions:

- 1> Are you aware that three of the most popular weekly news magazines, Time, Newsweek, and U.S. News and

World Report are not totally objective accounts of the news?

- 2> Do you know there is no such thing as a completely objective author, book, newspaper or magazine?
- 3> Do you think that because a magazine or newspaper article is unsigned it is always a statement of facts rather than opinions?
- 4> How can you determine the point of view of newspapers and magazines?
- 5> When you read do you question an author's frame of reference (political persuasion, training, and life experience)?

Many people finish their formal education unable to cope with these basic questions. They have little chance of understanding the social forces and issues surrounding them. Some fall easy victims to demagogues preaching solutions to problems by scapegoating minorities with conspiratorial and paranoid explanations of complex social issues.

I do not want to imply that anything is wrong with authors and publications that have a political slant or bias. All authors have a frame of reference. Readers should understand this. You should also understand that almost all writers have a point of view. To not have one is impossible. An important skill in reading is to be able to locate and identify a point of view. Here are the tools that have fueled my investigation into the realm of information:

A number of basic skills for critical thinking are practiced in nearly every door in this cellar to bring these activities to light, here is how it works: Locating a Point of View : The ability to determine which side of an issue an author supports.

Evaluating Sources of Information : The ability to choose from among alternative sources the most reliable and

accurate source in relation to a given subject. Distinguishing Between Primary and Secondary Sources : The ability to understand the important distinction between sources which are primary (original or eyewitness accounts) and those which are secondary (historically removed from, and based on primary sources).

Separating Facts from Opinion : The ability to make the basic distinction between factual statements (those which can be demonstrated or verified empirically) and statements of opinion (those which are beliefs or attitudes that cannot be proved).

Distinguishing Between Prejudice and Reason : The ability to differentiate between statements of prejudice (unfavorable, preconceived judgments based on feelings instead of reason) and statements of reason (conclusions that can be clearly logically explained and justified).

Identifying Stereotypes : The ability to identify oversimplified, exaggerated descriptions (favorable or unfavorable) about people, often insulting statements about racial, religious or national groups, and based on misinformation or lack of information.

Recognizing Ethnocentrism : The ability to recognize attitudes or opinions that express the view that one's own race, culture, or group is inherently superior, or those attitudes that judge another race, culture, or group in terms of one's own.

...::Gottfried Leibniz's "Principle of Identity" -

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(Another great tool for understanding information correctly.)

ANALYTIC / SYNTHETIC (S)

- A. True by Definition: (True merely by virtue of the meanings of the words in the sentences.)
- AS2. Not true by the Definition: (Their truth or falsity depends not on meanings but on facts in the world.)
- B. Necessary: (Their opposites are self-contradictions. They cannot be false.)
- BS. Not Necessary Rather Contingent: (Could be false if facts were different.)
- C. A Priori: (Their truth is known independently of observation.)
- CS. A Posteriori: (Their truth or falsity is known by observation.)

Please Note: Excessive "proper" usage of punctuation when referencing sources has always been overbearing for my eyes (a bit Dutch, I know). It may seem strange but for the purpose of making the sources easily readable, many of the unneeded punctuation has been omitted. I do realize that some things require punctuation, just like this: "that that is is that that is not is not is that it it is" because without the punctuation the reader could make no sense of it: "That that is, is. That that is not, is not. Is that it? It is!" Simply, source listings are the section of a book, while being listed require no real sense of inappropriate ink wasting punctuation. It's traditional non-sense for the most part. As you may have already guessed many of the views you have heard expressed are undoubtedly unstoppable catalysts in the ongoing increase in the suicide rate of English teachers abroad. Apologies are in order if, subsequently one of these poor misguided traditional miscreants is related to you or anyone you know. Down with English proper and up with the clarity of common sense.

]]}] the door has been opened [{ [[

*"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom:
and with all thy getting get understanding."*

- Proverbs 4:7

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}}Undeniable Signs{{

God may not be provable through mathematical formulae or properties of physics, but we live in an era where the evidence of God is all around us. Just look through the Hubble Telescope and peer to the edge of the massive cosmos. View the monitor of an electron-scanning microscope and delve into the intricate world of an organic cell. Sit down and read an entire library of information that reveals the complexity of the digital code that turns a fertilized egg into a human being. Study principles of quantum mechanics and investigate the world of extra-dimensionality. Review the nature of your conscience, subconscious, standards of morality, thoughts of religion. Then, try to reconcile all of these realities with a basic theory of randomness. Not believing in God is much more of a "leap of faith" than ever.

The logical man can see the proof of God whereas the man who denies God is only to the likeness of a broken set of senses - always irrational and never progressive. Believing in something that sounds good that has no real evidence to actually be true would be entirely ignorant; yet billions practice this belief system every day. Instead of focusing on personal likes and dislikes like most do, focus should be primarily established on immutable beliefs in which have no flaws. Evidence does not establish the Bible (God did), but all evidence supports it to the fullness of everything found in it. The proof is everywhere, to go right on ignoring even the evidence defies the sensibility of wisdom. When I started searching for God, I practiced and prayed to every God within the realm of conventional and spiritual wisdom. And

in testing whether which one was real, I found the one that fiction can never claim. Setting out to find God will ultimately result in the discovery of Him. "If you seek him, he will be found of you..." (2 Chronicles 15:2).

Being a former Atheist myself, coming to terms with the proof of God was hard but once I knew about the proof - How could I refuse it? Being a reasonable young man only wanting absolute truth; I, just like millions of others, accepted the evidence God left for us to find. What always comes out of the mouth of someone who doubts the existence of God is always "I wish God would send me a sign to let me know he's real!" Not realizing what the person is actually asking (they are asking God if He exists, see the categorical mistake there?) they continually fail to discover the undeniable and empirical truths He gave us as Signs to lay the question of his existence to rest. Just like the first person I heard ask that question I thought the same thing. The beautiful thing about it is that God did leave signs for us to find Him. Take the air for example, fault lines equal worldwide flood evidence and so on to the fossil record that verifies both increased oxygen ratios and the flood (see doors 33-38).

Much of the information reviewed in this book document the validity and priori that the creationist world view largely interpreted from the literal viewpoint of the book of Genesis is the only world view that is substantiated by biological evidence through fossilized remains and scientific verification. This being so, the only supported world view that with no form of malice can be found in any falsity is the Bible.

The million dollar question will always be this: How can some deny, after the discovery of God has been made through their own studies? Human nature maybe, ignorance or selfish pride may seem like appropriate answers but

everyones answer will be different; coming from the disposition of the heart of course.

Whatever drives the heart (philosophy held therein) effects the actions of the body, to deny the heart is to accept discomfort as a standard of living in some cases. Mankind has struggled with God ever since mankind came into existence by the hand of God. So naturally the many questions related to the discussion of God only demonstrate the confusion of falling away from God that mankind has surely made self-evident. Instead of focusing on self centered questions like the ones found in cellar door 39, that so many frequently ask, the most crucial question to be answered is the one from God.

He has asked us all a question, in every moment, of every day, that we have and will ever live:

Do you want to find *Me*?